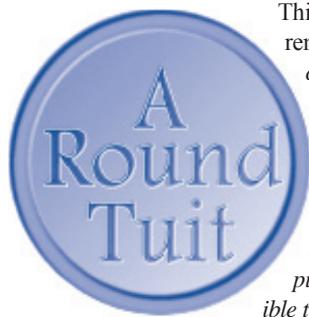


Beacon Kicks Off 2014 Fundraising

It's that time of year again – time for Andover residents, all of whom receive the *Beacon* in their mailbox each month at no charge, to make a voluntary contribution for 2014 to help keep the *Beacon* going.

If you receive your *Beacon* at an Andover address, you should find a "Round Tuit" envelope in the February issue. Please use it to make your 2014 donation (or donate online at AndoverBeacon.com, or use the coupon on page 4 of any issue). If you donate now, we won't have to contact you in the Fall when we do our canvassing campaign to contact everyone who forgot to "get a round tuit" earlier in the year!

**Don't wait for a call in the Fall!
Donate today, and you could win \$50!**



This year, we've even added an incentive to help you remember to "get a round tuit" and support the *Beacon*: every local donation we receive by May 15 will go into a random drawing, and three people will each win a \$50 pre-paid Visa card.

So don't wait for a call in the Fall! "Get a round tuit" today, and you could win \$50!

The *Andover Beacon* is published by *Community Publishing of Andover, Inc.*, a 501(c)(3) public charitable trust. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Bond Proposed to Catch Up Highway Projects, Minimize Costs

Deferred projects critical, interest rates favorable

By the Andover Board of Selectmen

This year's Board of Selectmen is as guilty as many previous Boards of deferring work on our roads and bridges in an effort to keep the tax rate down. The highway plan from 1994 to catch up and keep up with all our highway projects was essentially derailed by the recession. But now we have arrived at

the point where deferring projects is no longer in the best interest of the Town, if we are to maintain the safety and condition of our roads and bridges.

Thankfully, interest rates are at historic lows, so much so that using a bond to catch up on many deferred road and bridge projects is now not only possible, but fiscally prudent.

Here are the issues as we see them:

- Costs of oil-based products go up

See Bond on page 5

Andover Moves to Semi-Annual Tax Bills in June

Will save town about \$9,750 per year

By the Andover Board of Selectmen

Once again, the issue of semi-annual tax billing was brought before the Andover Board of Selectmen at a selectmen's meeting in November. Analysis shows that the cost to the Town of borrowing money is not insignificant.

From 2006 to 2012, the Town has paid \$79,602.70 in interest to borrow money in order to pay our bills. Our financial year begins on January 1, but our tax bills don't go out until November. The Town begins to run out of money in June each year, requiring us to borrow from the bank to keep the town running until the tax payments for the year start arriving in December.

Andover's representative at the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) has been telling us we're one of the last towns to still be on an annual billing schedule. Most other towns have recognized and realized the benefits of not having to borrow money to pay their bills. The Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to begin semi-annual billing in 2014.

This means that instead of receiving

one bill in late November of this year for your entire 2014 property tax obligation, you'll receive one bill in June of this year for about half your 2014 property tax, and a second bill in late November for the rest. Payment for each of the two bills will be due 30 days after the bill is mailed, and the usual interest and penalties will accrue after the due date of each bill. But no tax liens will be filed based solely on a taxpayer missing a June payment.

Because the tax rate is set in November every year by the DRA, the June tax bill is an "estimated" tax bill based on half of the previous year's total tax obligation. The November bill then makes up the difference between the June bill and the taxpayer's total tax bill for the current year, based on the new rate that DRA sets in November.

Two tax bills a year will give the Town better cash flow and will reduce the need for the Town to borrow. Analysis shows that with an average cost of \$11,000 per year in interest on borrowing, versus about \$1,250 to cover the cost of issuing a second tax bill every year, the savings to the Town would be about \$9,750 per year, or about \$7.31 on the annual tax of a \$200,000 property.

The Andover Beacon
Our Hometown Newspaper

AndoverBeacon.com February 2014 735-6099

Proposed Budgets Up 3.4% for 2014

Reduced revenue could mean 10% tax hike

By Ed Hiller
Andover Budget Committee

The Andover Budget Committee recommends a 2014 budget for the Andover School District of \$4,704,553, up \$88,597 over last year's appropriation. The recommended budget for the Town, net of directly offsetting revenues, is \$1,637,331, up \$148,188 over last year's net appropriation. The recommended budgets for the two Fire Departments total \$106,624, the same as last year. Assuming that the charge to the Town from Merrimack County remains the same as last year at \$752,807, the recommended total net budget for 2014 is \$7,215,365, up 3.4% over last year.

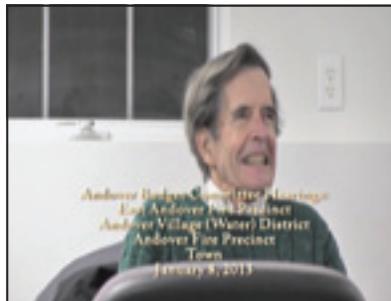
Revenues that will offset the tax impact of these budget recommendations are predicted to be significantly lower. As a result, the estimated tax rate for 2014 is above the rate for 2013 by about 10%.

Andover School Budget

The Budget Committee recommends an operating budget for the School for fiscal year 2014-15 of \$4,654,533. The Committee also recommends approval of Warrant Article 7 for \$50,000 to fund a building maintenance and improvement study. The total recommended budget is \$4,704,553. This is an increase of \$88,597 (1.9%) over the appropriation for 2013-14.

Last year there was an unexpended surplus of \$309,095 that was used to reduce the tax burden. This year there is

See Budgets on page 2



Budget Hearing Videos Available

Andover Cable TV Channel 8 has made the Andover Budget Committee's public hearings on the Town and School budgets available on the Town Web site at Andover.NH.us.

Beacon Trying to Hire Part-Time Production Help

Can we find the right person here in Andover?

By Charlie Darling, *Beacon* staff

To ensure that the *Beacon* will be sustainable into the future, it's time to hire a paid, permanent part-time Web and Print Production Specialist. I'd like our new hire to be an Andover person (or at least have a strong connection to our community).

In a nutshell, the job is to prepare ads, photos, and articles to appear in print and on the Web site. The articles and photos – and many of the ads – will have been created by others. The new specialist's job will be to work them through our rather elaborate computer processes to get them ready to appear in print and on the Web site.

At AndoverBeacon.com/Hire you'll find a detailed job description and a description of what we're looking for in candidates for the position. We're not worrying a lot about what skills a candidate has. What we're really focusing on is the personal qualities that a candidate would bring to the team – qualities like organization, motivation, reliability, maturity, and many other qualities that we need in a new team member.

See Hire on page 5

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Budgets from page 1

little likelihood of any significant surplus. Assuming that other revenues remain the same as last year, the tax burden for the School District is estimated to be up \$397,692, or 12.1%. This will add \$1.49 to the tax rate for 2014. Any unexpended surplus from the current year will be applied to reduce this tax burden.

The Committee recommends approval of Warrant Article 5, to authorize the School Board to transfer up to \$25,000 from unexpended surplus from the previous fiscal year into the High School Tuition Trust Fund. Also recommended is approval of Warrant Article 6, to authorize transfer of up to \$25,000 from unexpended surplus into the Special Education Trust Fund.

The Committee also recommends approval of Warrant Article 8, to establish a Contingency Fund to meet the cost of emergency expenses that may arise, and authorizes the School Board to transfer into this Fund amounts from

(less all directly offsetting revenues) is \$1,637,331. This is up from the net appropriation for 2013 by \$148,188 (10.0%).

The areas seeing the largest increases in budgeted spending for the coming year are: Highways and Bridges opera-

Estimated Tax Rates for 2014			
Department	2013	2014 (est.)	Change
School	\$12.38	\$13.87	\$1.49 12.0%
Town	\$3.55	\$4.07	\$0.52 14.6%
Fire			
Andover	\$0.63	\$0.63	— —
E. Andover	\$0.34	\$0.34	— —
County	\$2.82	\$2.82	— —
Total Estimated Tax Rates for 2014			
Andover	\$19.38	\$21.39	\$2.01 10.4%
E. Andover	\$19.09	\$21.10	\$2.01 10.5%

tions: up \$58,700; Highway Projects: up \$58,000; Town Office: up \$49,865

Town revenues in 2014 are predicted to be down from the amounts received in 2013. The amount to be raised by taxes to fund the recommended Town budget is predicted to be \$1,089,162, up \$139,352 (14.7%) from last year's amount. This will result in an estimated increase in the tax rate by \$0.52.

Andover Fire Departments

The 2014 budget recommendation for the Andover Fire District is \$67,362, and for the East Andover Fire precinct is \$53,312, for a total of \$120,674. These budgets are the same as the appropriations for 2013.

prediction of the impact that these recommended budget increases will have on the property tax rate for 2014 requires estimates of the other revenues that reduce the tax burden. It appears now that these revenues will be significantly less in 2014 than they were in 2013. In particular, there is no unexpended surplus available from the 2013 School appropriation, whereas last year there was \$309,095 available to offset taxes.

Based on reasonable estimates of other revenues, the total Andover tax rate for 2014 is predicted to increase by

about 10.5%. The tax bill for a property in the East Andover Fire District valued at \$200,000 will be approximately \$4,220, up \$402 from the \$3,818 of 2013. Similar amounts are estimated for a property in the Andover fire district.

unexpended surplus each year. By law, the total amount in this Fund cannot exceed 2.5% of the year's net tax assessment (this year that limitation is approximately \$90,000).

These three Warrant Articles will be funded, at the discretion of the School Board, from unexpended surplus. To the extent that any funds are utilized for these purposes, that will reduce the amount of surplus available as revenue to reduce taxes. Conservatively estimating that there will be no unexpended surplus available at the end of fiscal year 2013-14 to provide funding for these Articles, there will be no reduction in the tax burden for fiscal year 2014-15. In general, however, any unexpended surplus that is used to fund these articles will have a direct impact on the tax rate.

Proposed Net Budgets for 2014

Department	2013 appropriated	2014 proposed	Change
School	\$4,615,956	\$4,704,553	\$88,597
Town	\$1,489,143	\$1,637,331	\$148,188
Fire			
Andover	\$67,362	\$67,362	\$0
E. Andover	\$53,312	\$53,312	\$0
County	\$752,807	\$752,807	\$0
TOTAL	\$6,978,580	\$7,215,365	\$236,785

Andover Town Budget

The recommended 2014 net budget for the Town including warrant articles

Net budgets exclude pass-through items that don't impact this year's tax rate. Two common examples: the State reimbursing the Town for part of a road project, or the Town buying equipment with funds appropriated in prior years.

unexpended surplus each year. By law, the total amount in this Fund cannot exceed 2.5% of the year's net tax assessment (this year that limitation is approximately \$90,000).

Estimated Tax Rates

Prediction of the impact that these recommended budget increases will have on the property tax rate for 2014 requires estimates of the other revenues that reduce the tax burden. It appears now that these revenues will be significantly less in 2014 than they were in 2013. In particular, there is no unexpended surplus available from the 2013 School appropriation, whereas last year there was \$309,095 available to offset taxes.

Based on reasonable estimates of other revenues, the total Andover tax rate for 2014 is predicted to increase by

about 10.5%. The tax bill for a property in the East Andover Fire District valued at \$200,000 will be approximately \$4,220, up \$402 from the \$3,818 of 2013. Similar amounts are estimated for a property in the Andover fire district.

Tax Bills for a \$200,000 Property

Department	2013	2014 (est.)	Change
School	\$2,476	\$2,774	\$298 12.0%
Town	\$710	\$814	\$104 14.6%
Fire			
Andover	\$126	\$126	— —
E. Andover	\$68	\$68	— —
County	\$564	\$564	— —
Total Tax Bills for a \$200,000 Property			
Andover	\$3,876	\$4,278	\$402 10.4%
E. Andover	\$3,818	\$4,220	\$402 10.5%

Andover Town Budget

The recommended 2014 net budget for the Town including warrant articles



Frank Szilagyi awarded MaryAnne Moses her first place prize for shooting the biggest deer of the season at 202.5 pounds as part of the Andover Fish and Game Club deer pool. A plaque with her name on it was added to the Bob McDonald deer pool trophy. Photo: Gordy Ordway

Fish and Game Club Hosts Two Ice Fishing Derbies

February 8 for adults, March 1 for kids

By Amanda Gross, AF&G volunteer

It has been such a bizarre winter so far that it is hard to guess what Mother Nature has in store for us next. But one thing you can count on is that the Andover Fish and Game Club (AF&G) will be hosting its two annual ice fishing derbies.

First, the Al Chadwick Memorial Ice Fishing Derby, which is open to any aspiring angler, will be held on Saturday, February 8, at Kezar Lake in North Sutton. The entry fee is \$10 per person, and there will be cash prizes awarded for each category.

The derby starts at first light and ends at 1 PM. Please bring your own tackle, bait, and refreshments. When you arrive, register at the bob house with the red flag at the west end of the lake. If you have any questions about this derby, call 735-5815.

Second, the 30th annual Willis Nowell Memorial Kids Ice Fishing Derby, for kids 15 and under, will be held on Eagle Pond in Wilmot (off of Route 4) on Saturday, March 1. (Bad weather date is March 2.) Registration begins at 9 AM, and the derby runs from 9:30 AM to 12 noon.

Tackle and bait will be provided, and there will be plenty of free food and drink. Lucky prizes, participation ribbons, and trophies will be awarded to the kids with the best catches. Come join the AF&G for a fun time with the

family. Call 735-5311 with any questions about this derby.

Thank you to everyone who has attended our fundraising events, which make it possible for the AF&G to sponsor fun, family-friendly experiences like these derbies. An important mission of the AF&G is to educate the public, particularly children, about the outdoors, wildlife, and outdoor sports such as hunting and fishing. We always appreciate your support.

Thank you as well to Club members and their families and to supporters of the AF&G, who donate time, money, and supplies to our events.

Deer Pool Results

By Gordy Ordway, AF&G president

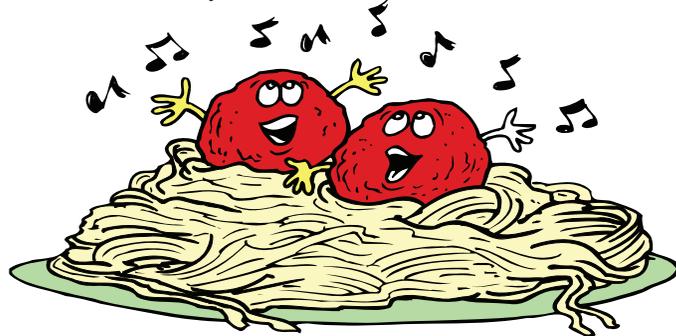
The 2013 AF&G deer pool results are as follows:

1. MaryAnne Moses, 7 pt, 202.5 lbs
2. Vic Stewart, 7 pt, 198 lbs
3. John Braley, 8 pt, 190 lbs
4. Bill McGinnis, 12 pt, 184 lbs
5. Jim Thompson, 6 pt, 174 lbs
6. Thomas Cahill, 8 pt, 171 lbs
7. Al Morgon, 9 pt, 168 lbs
8. Brian Kane, 8 pt, 158 lbs
9. Mike Moses, 6 pt, 137 lbs
10. Dwane Derosier, 7 pt, 136 lbs
11. Francis Heath, 7 pt, 135 lbs

The \$50 raffle winners were Dan Chadwick and Nathan French. Special thanks to Frank Szilagyi for running the pool and to Bob Weeks at the Danbury Trading Post for supplying the prizes.

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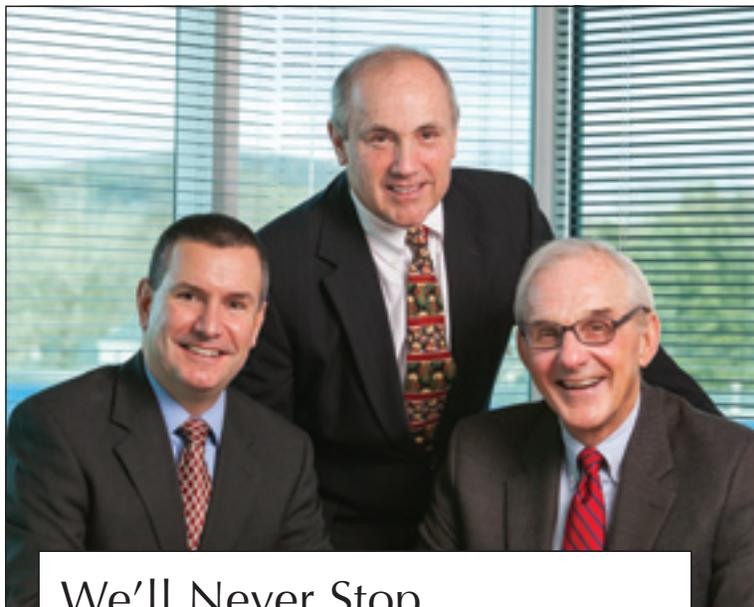
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Half page	\$1,526	\$859	\$453	\$159
Full page	\$2,774	\$1,561	\$824	\$289
Pre-printed insert	\$1,526	\$859	\$453	\$159

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Technology: Tom Brown, Steve Colardeau
Accounting: Tatjana Donovan, Brenda Brown, Sharon Darling
The Andover Beacon • PO Box 149
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The next issue should be in mailboxes on Friday, February 28. Please get all ads, articles, etc. to us by **Saturday, February 15** at the latest. And **earlier is always better!**

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BEACON MEMBERS WIN!

Each month the *Beacon* holds a random drawing among its Andover members to give away valuable prizes provided by area businesses. **Become a member** for a year, support the *Beacon*, and join the fun! This month's winners are:

Andover Artist Lisa Jelleme	Matted Print	Barbara and Lewis Barton
Andover Pizza Chef	Large 2-Topping Pizza	Ray and Marianne Lizotte
Blackwater Junction Rest.	Gift Certificate	Wayne and Sally Nicoll
H'MMM - Helen Brothers	Fashion Accessory	Candi Adams
Herbalife - Helen Brothers	Sample Set	Jim Danforth
Jake's Market and Deli	Gift Certificate	Andrew Doherty & Michelle Baker
Kearsarge Magazine	1-Year Subscription	Paul and Melissa Barton
MacKenna's Restaurant	Gift Certificate	Kendel Currier
Mary Kay - Laura Condon	Gift Certificate	Beryl Sanborn
New Horizons Hairstylists	Hair Care Products	Kitty Kidder

WINNERS! Call volunteer Margo Coolidge at 735-5418 to collect your prize.
 Prizes not redeemable for cash.

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Bond from page 1

every year, so the price of a paving project goes up accordingly.

- The longer road and bridge improvement is deferred, the more deterioration takes place, thereby increasing the cost of the project.

- Past practice of paving approximately one mile of road per year is the least cost-effective way to improve paved roads. Each year, the same mobilization costs are incurred, such that after 10 years, the Town has paid the cost of mobilizing paving equipment and materials 10 times over.

- Steve Liaikos, a retired senior DOT Bridge Engineer, met with the Board this summer and identified four bridges that will require improvement (Kearsarge Mountain Road, Mountain Brook on Elbow Pond Road, and Hall Farm Road) or removal (Gale Road) within the next two years or face bridge closure.

Deferring critical projects and/or handling them piecemeal no longer makes sense. We are proposing to bundle the bridge and road projects (excluding the Lawrence Street bridge) into one year – this year! – to save on mobilization costs and to realize discounted rates on a large paving project.

To do so, Town Meeting needs to authorize a \$1,000,000 bond for road and bridge improvement so the Town can:

- Borrow up to \$1,000,000 at an historically low interest rate. (We only expect to have to borrow about \$750,000.)
- Bundle critical road projects to save money on mobilization costs

- Catch up on deferred projects, such as putting final coats on recent paving projects

- Avoid bridge closures by including four bridge projects

- Hire a "clerk of the works" to put the work out to bid and oversee the projects to assure quality of work and cost efficiency

- Finish ten years of work in one year, at this year's prices, avoiding the cost increases that are sure to come

We anticipate that the payment on the bond will be about \$158,000 per year for seven years. Because the bond will give us money for all the capital highway projects (except the Lawrence Street bridge) that are foreseeable for the next seven years, we should be able to make that \$158,000 bond payment every year instead of the \$100,000 to \$150,000 per year that we usually budget for capital highway projects.

Therefore, the plan is for the bond to have little or no net impact on taxes. The impact everyone will see, however, is all the neglected Andover roads and bridges that get fixed in 2014 instead of those projects being spread over the coming seven years at a higher cost. Among the major projects on the list for 2014, if the bond is approved at Town Meeting, are:

- Monticello Drive
- Switch Road
- Shaw Hill Road
- Bay Road
- Kearsarge Mountain Road bridge
- Elbow Pond Road bridge
- Hall Farm Road bridge
- Gale Road bridge



Andover's Yankee Trader

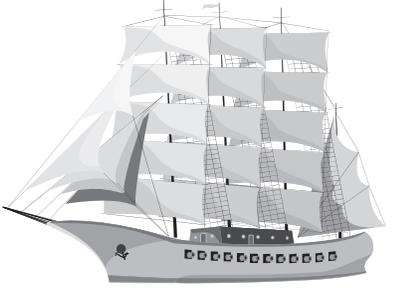
Tires WANTED: Two 6.00/6.50 X 16 tires, new or used, but both with the same tread pattern. East Andover, 735-5217.

Old shelving WANTED: for the Andover Public Library to use in the basement of the Town Hall for storing books donated for the Fourth of July book sale. 735-5333.

Two Lazy Susans for decorating cakes, \$5 each. Three box fans, \$10 each. Two bandsaws, one floor mounted, one table mounted, \$20 each. stoneanarch@tds.net

Sears Craftsman Table Saw: Good condition. \$30 or best offer. 735-5255.

Antique Singer Sewing Machine: \$100 obo. Two pitchforks, long-handled dung fork: \$15 ea. Gould water pump – old, but runs great: \$65 obo. Hand hay rake: \$35. Antique bean thrasher: \$40 obo. Miller furnace: \$95 obo. 526-2262.



Williamson Temp-o-matic oil furnace: great heat! 180,000 BTUs. \$150 or best offer. 735-5960.

Starcraft 12' Boat: with trailer, Johnson 3.5 hp motor, oars, and anchor. \$950. 735-5840. Leave a message and phone number.

Aerobic cycle: Free. 735-5587.

Baldwin spinet piano with bench: Oak veneer, about 30 years old. Good condition, \$750. 735-5200.

If you have stuff that's "too good to throw away," let *Andover's Yankee Trader* (AYT) help you find it a new home. AYT is for individuals or businesses to give away (or sell) stuff they no longer need (not stuff they bought to re-sell). Up to 30 words is free for Andover residents and *Beacon* subscribers; \$5 for others. Add a photo for \$5. If you'd like to show your appreciation when AYT works for you, an extra (tax deductible) donation would be appreciated! To be included in next month's AYT, get your 30 words and optional photo to the *Beacon* by the 15th. Ads@AndoverBeacon.com • PO Box 149, Andover 03216 • 735-6099

Hire from page 1

Can You Help?

Do you know someone who's comfortable using computers professionally and is looking for a permanent part-time position? Would they make a great team member and help us meet some very challenging goals every

month?

If so, please show them this article or send them a link to the job description I mentioned above. If they like what they see, I hope they'll send me their resume right away. My goal is to have several candidates to interview in February and to make a decision by early March at the latest.

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Letters

Community's Generosity is Appreciated

Gail and I are in the unique position of being in the center of an amazing distribution process which is especially active during the holiday season. The outpouring of generosity and kindness that funnels through the AE/MS office is absolutely incredible.

Numerous local organizations, families, couples, and individuals contact our office to work through us to donate gifts, meals, gift cards, or monetary gifts to families in need. It is most often delivered anonymously. The donor only wants to see that a family who needs it receives it. Many of these donations are made year after year.

While this generous outpouring is especially abundant at Christmas, it fortunately occurs on a regular basis throughout the year. New backpacks are filled with school supplies, snack funds are established, and multi-course meals are also provided at Thanksgiving and Easter.

It is heartwarming to watch our community come together and take care of those going through a rough time. Gail and I receive such joy each December.

We are especially thankful during the holiday season for our kind and generous community. We truly care for and about one another. This doesn't happen everywhere. We are lucky. Thank you, Andover.

*Gail Parenteau and
Jane Slayton, AE/MS*

School District Meeting and Town Meeting are coming up in March. **Please send a letter to the Beacon** expressing your thoughts on the budgets, the warrant articles, our local election, or other local matters. Our readers want and need to hear your voice!

The mission of *The Andover Beacon* is to serve and strengthen the Andover community. To that end, we welcome civil, reasoned letters addressing specifically local issues, events, and developments. Submissions must not be critical of another's religion; blasphemous; obscene; hateful; legally objectionable; or commercial in nature. The *Beacon* reserves the right to edit or not publish submissions it deems inappropriate for any reason.

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Mario Ratzki Reports from Concord

Medicaid expansion is once again a topic

By Mario Ratzki, NH representative

The 2014 session of the New Hampshire state legislature was off to a rousing start.

First, the rumors of the death of Medicaid Expansion turned out to be greatly exaggerated. In a transparent attempt to establish a bargaining position with the Senate, the House voted in a partisan vote to reopen the conversation on Medicaid Expansion.

The expansion is necessary to close a gap in coverage for people who make too much for Medicaid and not enough (approximately \$16,000 a year) to qualify for subsidies under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

About the ACA, otherwise known as Obamacare, I would urge everyone to keep an open mind and not let assumptions keep people from applying for health insurance. I know of people who were able to sign up, get a better plan, and lower their premiums and their deductibles by as much as 50%. (Note that these results may not apply to everyone). Donna Toomey, a navigator for the ACA, can answer your questions and help you sign up for a plan at 934-1464, extension 119. This service is completely free.

In other news:

By a vote of 170 to 162 across party lines, HB 492, a bill to legalize and regulate marijuana, passed the House. The first vote to uphold the "Inexpedient to Legislate" (ITL) recommendation of the committee was 170 to 168. A motion to reconsider sailed through, and the vote was then overturned by the same number. A motion for tabling was defeated, and a motion of "Ought to Pass" (OTP) was then passed. The governor has already indicated she will veto the bill.

HB 435, which would increase funding for public charter schools, came in with a recommendation to ITL. This was overturned, and the bill passed 177

to 124.

SB 190 would have terminated the age-old tradition of letting seniors over the age of 65 ski for free at state parks. While the part of the bill which would have stopped free admission for government officials was agreeable to the majority in the House, the bill as written confused the issue and was tabled.

HB 525 raises the age from 17 to 18 years for a juvenile to be considered an adult in the criminal system. This easily passed on a vote of 327 to 17.

HB 675, authorizing the use of license plate scanning devices by law enforcement officials, was roundly defeated on a vote of 250 to 97. The bill was seen by supporters as another tool in law enforcement and was endorsed by police chiefs, but raised concerns among opponents about privacy rights.

Still to come in the coming weeks: GMO labeling, HB 660. This a bill I support on a right to know what is in our foods. We are then free to make our choice. It is coming out of committee on an ITL basis. This would have to be overturned, then voted on as OTP. While I have received phone calls from lobbyists to kill it, an overwhelming majority of e-mails (close to 100%) want labeling. Many other bills to come: Keno, casino, etc.

Danbury voted recently on the issue of the Wild Meadow wind farm project. Danbury selectmen sent out approximately 800 ballots, approximately 400 came back, and by a two-thirds majority the voters decided against the wind farm.

As a resident of Andover, my position has always been that Danbury and Danbury alone should decide. I will support the town's decision. I will therefore vote for HB 580, which would impose a moratorium on wind farms until the state has developed an energy plan.

I am always available at MarioRatzki@gmail.com or 735-5440.

TOWN MATTERS!

The *Beacon* needs volunteers to help with reporting about town news. If you can help, call Charlie at 735-6099

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Anyone Can Write a Warrant Article for Town Meeting

Requires signatures of 25 Andover voters

By Charlie Darling, Beacon staff

Traditionally, the Board of Selectmen writes the warrant articles for Town Meeting and we, the voters of Andover, flock to Town Meeting to discuss and ultimately vote on each article. The articles that we accept, including the total budget figure, pretty much control how the town is run for the coming year.

But it's not just the Board of Selectmen that can put an idea (in the form of a warrant article) before Town Meeting to be voted on. In fact, anyone can do it.

Of course, there are a few rules:

1) The warrant article must be delivered to the office of the Selectmen by the fifth Tuesday before Town Meeting. This year, that will be Tuesday, February 4.

2) The warrant article must be signed (legibly!) by at least 25 registered Andover voters. Each signature will be checked against the Town's checklist. If fewer than 25 of the signatures can be matched on the checklist, the article won't be added to the warrant.

3) According to NHRS 39:3, the Selectmen may make "only such minor textual changes as may be required," so the burden is on the writer of the warrant article to be sure it is worded

clearly and that it calls for an action that Town Meeting can legally take.

Any Other Business

If, for whatever reason, you can't meet all those criteria, you may still be able to put your issue in front of Town Meeting. The last article of the warrant is always "To transact any other business that may legally come before [Town Meeting]." That's your cue to be recognized by the moderator and put your issue before the voters.

But there's a catch: to be legally valid, any motion at Town Meeting must comply with NHRS 39:2, which requires that "The subject matter of all business to be acted upon at the town meeting shall be distinctly stated in the warrant, and nothing done at any meeting shall be valid unless the subject thereof is so stated."

So if your idea needs to be legally valid – if it expends money or changes an ordinance or something like that – then "any other business" is not the time to bring it up. Even if it were passed by the meeting, it wouldn't be legally valid because it would not meet the requirement of NHRS 39:2.

On the other hand, a motion that has no legal effect, such as honoring someone or expressing the meeting's support for an organization, works just fine as "any other business."

Run for Town Office in 2014!

It's time to think about who's going to fill all the positions in town government and in the school district to keep the wheels turning smoothly. The following is a run-down of what offices will be on the ballot in March and what the incumbents may be planning.

Town Officers

Town Moderator for two years: Dan Coolidge is the incumbent and intends to run.

Selectman for three years: Vicky Mishcon is the incumbent and does not intend to run.

Road Agent for two years: Jon Champagne, the incumbent, does not intend to run.

Supervisor of the Checklist for six years: Irene Jewett is the incumbent. She does not intend to run again.

Town Treasurer for two years: Incumbent Shirley Currier intends to run.

Budget Committee for three years (two positions): Incumbent Bill Bardley is undecided; incumbent Wendy Pinkham intends to run.

Library Trustee for three years: Marj Roy is the incumbent and does not intend to run again.

Trustee of Trust Funds for three years: Joanne Edgar is the incumbent and intends to run.

Cemetery Trustee for three years: Pat Cutter, incumbent, does not intend

to run again.

The Town paid positions up for election this year are:

Moderator: \$10 per hour

Selectman: \$1,500 per year

Road Agent: \$15 per hour

Supervisor of the Checklist: \$7.25 per hour

Treasurer: \$3,000 per year

School District Officers

School Board for three years: Kent Armstrong, the incumbent, intends to run again.

Moderator for one year: Betsy Paine, the incumbent, intends to run.

Clerk for one year: Christie Coll is the incumbent and intends to run again.

Treasurer for one year: Incumbent Shirley Currier intends to run again.

The School District paid positions up for election this year are:

School Board: \$100 per year

Moderator: \$60 per annual meeting

Clerk: \$13.83 per hour

Treasurer: \$1,000 per year

How To File

Filing to run for office is very easy. There is no filing fee for any position.

The filing period for these positions began on Wednesday, January 22, and ends on Friday, January 31. The filing form can be obtained at the Town Clerk's office in Town Hall during her normal business hours.



HAPPY GROUNDHOG DAY!

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TOWN of ANDOVER

**Filing Period for
Andover Town &
School District Officers**

Jan 22 to Jan 31

**File at Town Clerk's office
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Get Ready To Vote In 2014!

By Charlie Darling
Beacon staff

Town Meeting Day is coming up on Tuesday, March 11, and with it comes your chance to elect Town and School District officers and vote in the Special Election for Executive Councilor.

If you're not registered to vote, it's quick and easy. If you'll be out of town or homebound on voting day, casting an absentee vote is also easy. There's no excuse not to vote.

The information below is taken almost verbatim from the New Hampshire Secretary of State's Election Division Web site. The easiest way to get there is at AndoverBeacon.com/Vote.

For more information about registering or voting, contact Joanna Sumner, our Town Clerk, at 735-5332.

Who Can Register

New Hampshire residents who will be 18 years of age or older on election day, and a United States citizen, may register with the town or city clerk where they live up to 10 days before any election.

You may also register on Election Day at the polling place. The Town Clerk's office can inform voters of what proof of qualification they should bring to register.

There is no minimum period of time you are required to have lived in the state before being allowed to register. You may register as soon as you move into your new community.

How To Register

Apply to your Town Clerk's office. You will be required to fill out a voter registration form and show proof of age, citizenship, and domicile.

Qualified individuals may also register to vote at the polling place on Election Day at all elections. You will be asked to show proof of age, citizenship, and domicile.

Absentee Registration

If you meet the state's voter requirements and are unable to register in person because of physical disability, religious beliefs, military service, or because of temporary absence, you may register by mail. Request an absentee voter registration affidavit and a standard voter registration form from your Town Clerk.

The absentee voter registration affidavit must be witnessed and then both the affidavit and the voter registration form are to be returned to your Town Clerk.

Absentee Ballots

Voting by mail with an absentee ballot is limited to a person who is unable to vote in person because of:

- a religious commitment
- a physical disability
- an employment commitment
- plans to be absent from the town where they are eligible to vote.

An absentee ballot is available 30 days prior to an election. Submit a request in writing to Joanna Sumner, Town Clerk, PO Box 61, Andover 03216. You must include your name, local address, mailing address (if different), and your signature.

Town clerks may accept completed absentee ballots submitted in person until 5 PM the day before an election or until 5 PM on election day if received through the mail.

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School Meeting Warrant Articles Seek to Bolster Trust Funds

Protect against surprises in special ed, MV tuition

By Michelle Dudek
Andover School Board

The Andover School Board is recommending the School District Meeting on Monday, March 3, approve two warrant articles (numbers 5 and 6) that would use a possible budget surplus to fund the High School Tuition Expendable Trust Fund and the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund.

The purpose of these trust funds, established several years ago, is to provide stability and security to the operating budget. High school tuition is a per pupil cost, and with enrollment fluctuations, and more specifically projected increases in the coming years, funding this trust fund will avoid a significant increase in the Andover School District's operating budget. Similarly, funding the Special Education Trust Fund will help offset an unexpected increase in special education obligations.

The School Board is proposing that these Trust Funds be funded only in the case that there is a budget surplus. No additional money will be raised and ap-

propriated to fund these trust funds.

Facilities Study

Warrant Article 7 would provide for Architect/Engineering fees for a study to determine appropriate options for continued use of the present AE/MS facilities to meet current demands and future plans for this facility and grounds consistent with the AE/MS Long Range Plan, the Town of Andover Long Range Plan updated October 22, 2013, and applicable State and Federal regulations.

Adequate Education Funding

Warrant Article 8 is based on new state regulations that permit school districts to retain up to 2.5 % of unexpended funds to provide for changes in the amount provided by the state "Adequate Education" funding from property taxes. This amount has experienced some large changes from year to year, requiring several school districts to hold an Emergency Special School District Meeting to meet a sudden decrease in this source of revenue. Spending from the fund that would be established by Warrant Article 8 would be restricted and would have to be approved by the New Hampshire State Commissioner of Education.



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TOWN COMMITTEE MINUTES

Board Of Selectmen

October 21, 2013

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Selectmen Mishcon and Coolidge; Jon Warzocha, Reggie Roy, Jon Champagne, TA Marjorie Roy.

Transfer Station

Thank you to Jon Warzocha for assisting with the drawings and two optional plans for the single-stream recycling renovation at the Transfer Station. Ms. Mishcon described the traffic pattern changes that will take place. Discussion tonight to assess which option is most suitable.

Reggie Roy: Considering the heavy traffic times that do occur at the Transfer Station, it seems that Plan A is most suitable as it will reduce or prevent traffic congestion. Saturdays between 10 and 11 there is an average of 65 to 75 patrons.

Mr. Danforth said he likes Plan A but would like to add an office in the middle of the roofline of the Recycle Building that exits out to the recycling dumpster and juts out about two feet so that an attendant can see the containers. A six foot metal fence would allow enough room for metal dumpster and residential C&D dumpster. All the fees for services will be handled by the attendant at the Recycle Building.

There will be six parking spots at each compactor. If the recycling center is busy, patrons can go to the trash hopper first. Patrons pulling stuff out of dumpsters is a problem, so a camera on the building will allow the attendant to see the metal and C&D dumpsters.

The approach to the trash hopper will be widened. One lane will be for trash, and the second for recycling. The two lanes will be divided by Jersey barriers, and patrons will make two passes. This will encourage less pedestrian traffic from one lane to the other.

A commercial C&D will be placed in the rear of the lot, as will a metal container. The propane tank and the tire storage trailer may be moved.

Swap Shop: Other towns place a

real value on their swap centers; not only what stays but what goes back out – reduce and reuse. Ms. Mishcon said this Swap Shop was more a demonstration of purpose. It has been running for several years, and there has not been much difficulty getting volunteers to work one Saturday a month. It would definitely be better if we had a building where everything is under cover.

Mr. Danforth said that trucks will be able to back up and back in. Due to heavy traffic times, it would be best to have restricted hours for the commercial haulers. Belletetes usually comes in in the early morning with cardboard.

Mr. Coolidge is unable to be here until approximately 6:30 PM and the Board would like his opinions before making a decision on the Transfer Station design.

Reggie Roy: the change of handling electronics in the Recycle Building has been very helpful.

Compactor price: \$15,000 to \$18,000, container buy or rent?, \$4,000 to \$5,000 for pad.

Mishcon: Money available in CRF. Selectmen are agents to expend. Hope to get this done this year.

JD: Five years ago we held the 700 gallon water tank out. Inverted, Island View Welding was to put the appropriate fixture on it, AFD to fill with water in non-freezing months, reach both burn piles. Tame the fire, open up, gravity feed.

7.3 lbs. garbage a day family of four.

Recycling container: Buy largest we can, since cubic weight is more than tare weight since recyclables are loose and light.

Reggie Roy: 5 to 6 PM, very few patrons.

Mishcon: would like to see container, hopper etc.

JD: Make sure whatever is purchased. See Selectmen on page 11

Office Hours & Meetings

OFFICE HOURS

Town Office: Mon-Fri 8:30-1

Town Clerk & Tax Collector:

Mon & Wed, 9-2

Tue & Thu, 1:30-6:30

Last Saturday of month, 9-11

Building Inspector: Tues, 6-7

Andover Library:

Mon, 6:30-8:30

Wed, 9-12 & 6:30-8:30

Thu, 12:30-4:30 • Sat, 10-12

Bachelor Library:

Tues, 9-12:30 & 6:30-8:30

Thu, 6:30-8:30 • Fri, 1:30-5

Transfer Station:

Wed, 7-6 (7-5 during Standard Time)

Sat, 7-5

Swap Event (May-Oct):

2nd Sat (rain date: 3rd Sat)

Transfer Station, 8-12

MEETINGS

At the Town Hall unless otherwise noted

Board of Selectmen:

1st & 3rd Mon, 6

Planning Board: 2nd & 4th Tue, 7

Zoning Board of Adjustment: 3rd Tue, 7

Conservation: 2nd Wed, 7:30

Recreation Comm: 2nd Tues, 7, AE/MS Science Room

Library Trustees: 3rd Thu, 7 (except Jul & Aug), Andover Library or Bachelor Library

Fourth of July: 1st Wed (Feb-Jun & Aug), Andover Fire Station, 7

Andover & East Andover Fire Depts: 1st Mon, Business, 7; 3rd Mon, Training, 7

Andover EMS: 2nd Tue, 7 East Andover Fire Station

School Board: 1st Tue (except July and August), 6:30, AE/MS

For more information, call the Town Office at 735-5332.

Mark Your Calendar!

JANUARY

28: Building Inspector, 6-7

28: Planning Board, 7

31: Filing Period ENDS for Local Candidates

FEBRUARY

3: Board of Selectmen, 6

3: Fire Dept Business Meeting, 7

4: Building Inspector, 6-7

4: School Board, AE/MS, 6:30

5: Fourth of July Committee, Andover Fire Station, 7

11: Building Inspector, 6-7

11: Planning Board, 7

11: Andover EMS, East Andover Fire Station, 7

11: Recreation Comm, AE/MS, 7

12: Conservation Commission, 7:30

17: Board of Selectmen, 6

17: Fire Department Training, 7

18: Building Inspector, 6-7

18: Zoning Board, 7

20: Library Trustees, Andover Library, 7

25: Building Inspector, 6-7

25: Planning Board, 7

TOWN MATTERS!

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Selectmen from page 10

chased runs on vegetable oil.

Thank you to Jon Warzocha and John Elliott for their work.

Road Agent will do site work. Project amount to be approved by Selectmen. Signage will be planned and implemented prior to opening new configuration.

Safety precautions to mark new traffic patterns.

Investment Policy Adoption

Marj Roy: Auditors requested we add a section on risk, liquidity, and yield. JD: Motion to move, VM second, unanimous vote.

Town Forester

JD: Conservation Commission is re-assigning the properties that have been assigned in the past. Cons Comm is responsible for monitoring the properties and coming back to the Selectmen to report any problems or concerns. Some towns have foresters who maintain the trees on town-owned properties, including cemeteries. Hourly rate. Cons Comm would have access to a forester for opinions.

Budget purposes. Line item: Forestry (all committees and Selectmen have access). Place ad for forester, looking for hourly rate. Recommendation: \$1,200 first year. JD: vote to add line item to budget. VM second. Unanimous vote.

PB will take care of turn-around on Hoyt Road, since a turn-around is being created at the end of Hoyt Road. PB-review names of roads. Combine with work done by Arch Weathers and Chris Norris RSMS. PB Flood Plain Map with ZEO. Planning will take the lead with changes required due to the repair/construction of Lawrence Street Bridge. Estimate requested from DoI. Ten years away. Waiver for financial hardship. Abutments would have to be further apart and would require removal of a house on the south side of the bridge.

Office Fees

For copies of maps, zoning amendments, etc. Charges are necessary to maintain the photocopies which is required for anyone who comes in and requests a copy. Also, charge for electronic copies to help maintain the copi-

er. Payment type: TA to research credit card payments. TA: order thumb drives for Master Plan (\$10?)

Complete set of tax maps requested by a resident (electronically): \$10 thumbdrive, \$25 paper copy.

Selectmen will create a master fee schedule.

Communication Form

Better communication is needed between committees, departments, and residents. Three-part form: originator, department, TA to keep in binder. Over 100 volunteers. TA will present Selectmen with forms not responded to. TA presented draft form. Eagle Printing. Board approved.

Per Road Agent's report, TA presented Board with a renewal of the right-of-way agreement between the Town and Mark Thompson Excavating, allowing the Town access to its sandpit that is landlocked.

Letters to property owners that have driveways causing problems to Town roads will receive letters of notification from the Board of Selectmen. List generated by Road Agent.

PB memorandum re: fabric-covered garages. What required a permit? JD spoke to what the state building code requires. It appears that PB wants to include fences in the permit requirements. Before we create a hard and fast rule, we need to have uniform information about set-backs, right-of-ways, etc. Is there a rule for rights-of-way? Mailboxes can be put in right-of-way, fences cannot. Need rules in place before enforcement takes place.

Fabric-covered garages are buildings that in most cases stay in place for a long period of time, should require building permits. The Board expressed reluctance to take on more than can be enforced.

Road Agent's Report

Post Office has installed railings for mailboxes in some places where snow is piled. Road Agent will talk with Postmaster.

Transfer Station road needs to be widened and banked as you drive up to the solid waste hopper. Jon stated that it would be more efficient and safer if traffic from the gravel/sand pit was routed with other traffic exiting the Transfer

Station.

\$10,860 to manufacture/screen three days worth of screening 2,500 yards mfg./screen. Added to the amount currently at the Thompson pit. You save \$18,600 (\$9/cu. yd. x 2500 cu yds.) 3 days 3 trucks to haul \$4,680. Hauling in requires loader 3 days \$2,280. Grand total \$29,460.

Not transporting what is mfg./screened at the Transfer Station.

Salt will be added to the sand at Thompson pit. Jon will dump 30 tons of salt and mix it into the sand. As making the sand at the Transfer Station use another 30 tons.

JD: White Oak needs a light. JC has spoken with NHEC. Considering moving the pole for reasons.

November 18, 2013

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Selectmen Mishcon, Danforth and Coolidge, Town Administrator Roy, Road Agent Jon Champagne, and a member of the public, John Thompson.

Bids for demolition of buildings at 76 Bridge Road as well as cleanup of debris at that location were opened. Bids were from: Atwood, Thompson, Hurlburt, Abandanza, Darryl Hoitt. One bid was withdrawn the afternoon of November 18 and is not listed above. The Selectmen did not select a contractor due to the fact that an asbestos inspection is pending.

Wendy Pinkham presented a formal

request for the Town to move to semi-annual tax billing.

She provided the Board with a very thorough fact sheet to corroborate the fact that the Town would save money by billing semi-annually. The savings could be as much as \$8,000 per year.

The Assessment Letter of Intent with Cross Country Assessing will be ready for Board signature this week. Once signed by the Andover Selectmen, the letter will go to the Selectmen in Salisbury and Webster for signatures.

Mr. Danforth proposed taking the bridges from the Road Agent's budget and putting them on a warrant article.

The Lawrence Street Bridge will be very expensive and will most likely be funded with Federal funds. Towns that have their portion of, or authorization for, their portion of the funding have the first opportunity for their project to be selected.

Mr. Danforth proposed a Japanese Knotweed eradication project. This invasive plant can be seen all over town. It is wise to keep it out of the bog areas such as the pond at Highland Lake. He also suggested borrowing money to put a paving plan in place.

The Board will review the Road Agent's list of proposed projects and regular budget items.

The Board discussed the need to increase the grader maintenance budget line by \$500 to cover the turnover inspection when the new Road Agent

See Selectmen on page 12



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Selectmen from page 11

takes office.

A new budget line item will be added for Road Agent's time/wages. The Board scheduled a work session for Wednesday, November 20, at 9 AM. Ms. Roy will call Jon to see if he is available to attend the work session.

There was discussion about a warrant article for a centralized HVAC system for the Town Office Building. It was decided that \$3,000 would be added to the budget for a quote on a centralized HVAC system.

Recreation Committee

Alan Hanscom and Tom Frantz presented the Recreation Committee's 2014 proposed budget.

Does last year's Town Meeting vote for the Blackwater Park Building carry forward? (There is some money remaining).

Discussion ensued about re-establishing the Recycling Committee for educational and innovative purposes.

The Board signed the Tax Warrant and the paperwork for the extension of the Tax Anticipation Note (line of credit).

Mr. Danforth provided warrant article wording for authorization to transfer four Town properties that have been in custodial care of the Town for over 10 years. Three of the four cannot be developed due to state or Town regulations, such as driveway permit denial.

The Board received a petition re-

questing that the Board defer the demolition of the property at 76 Bridge Road. Mishcon thanked the petitioners and explained that Town Counsel has advised that the property must be demolished for reasons of liability. There has been a lot of public input and several votes of the Board for demolition.

December 2, 2013

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Selectmen Mishcon, Danforth, and Coolidge; Town Administrator (TA) Roy, Road Agent Jon Champagne, Don Gross

Road Agent's Report

Jon inquired as to whether or not issues addressed via the Communication Transmittal Form require signed work proposals before issues can be resolved. The Board agreed this is not necessary. Proposal forms are for projects only.

Jon presented a work order for creating a turn-around at the top of Hoyt Road. Once again there has been damage to equipment plowing and trying to turn around at that location. There is no longer money in the budget for this, and the BoS authorized the TA to send a letter to Mr. Hollins making it clear that the boulders are removed so that equipment can turn around.

Jon will down-post the Lawrence Street bridge.

Grader Breakdown: Jon presented a quote from Milton-Cat for repair of the swallowed valve. Milton-Cat evaluated and documented that the grader is

in very good condition. It has a broken valve spring and a broken valve stem. Mike Robinson of Milton-Cat stated to Jon and Don there was no way to pre-detect this condition, as it was a "catastrophic failure."

Jon reported that Milton-Cat's records indicate the grader has had service as required and with that, they will work with the Town. This type of failure is usually seen at 10,000+ miles, not 3,800 miles. Caterpillar recognized the overall maintenance and the documentation has been excellent.

When the repair is finished, there will be a six month warranty on the work performed. The extended warranty has expired. A remanufactured head with new valves and valve springs, cylinder pack will be used for replacement.

The Selectmen authorized payment. Mishcon made a motion to authorize payment of approximately \$15,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund Highway Equipment. Coolidge seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The Town Administrator will implement a plan where the grader operator's time sheets with grader details will be copied and maintained in a separate file "Grader Maintenance."

Highway Committee: Don Gross reported that the committee is now made up of himself and Jon Champagne. The Board should regroup with Gross and Champagne. Once a directive is developed, a request for membership can be published.

Students from Colby-Sawyer College's Kearsarge Valley Transition Initiative will be attending municipal meetings in Andover and New London. The students introduced themselves. They are working on a survey for towns in this area regarding energy consumption and other basic questions. They are working on the Energy Descent Action Program, a continuing program from last year's students. Different aspects of towns, health, transportation, tourism etc. The end product will be available for municipalities to use when decision making. Nathan Laramer, Garrett Dunnals.

Arch Weathers in attendance as a Budget Committee member.

Board voted to continue plow rates as established in November 2012.

December 16, 2013

Condensed from approved minutes

The Road Agent requested that the Winter Maintenance Policy be published and posted.

Procurement Policy Update

The updated policy gives authority to the Town Administrator to monitor and execute the purchasing process, and it tightens up rules. It is explicit as to profit and loss of contractors/bidders. This is a "not to exceed" system. The Town isn't paying for work that is questionable. Lead bidders are to be specified. (Marj check policy for wording). Excluding any plowing contracts through July 1, 2014.

A motion to replace the current Procurement Policy with the new Procurement Policy to be dated December 16, 2013 was made by Selectman Mishcon. The motion was seconded by Selectman Coolidge. The motion carried.

Warrant Articles

Mishcon reviewed. Final amount for road improvement bond/loan will be one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00).

A policy for project choices will be developed in January. Nothing will go into the Highway Capital Reserve Fund. If this article does not pass, \$150,000 will go into the Capital Reserve Fund.

Town Administrator (TA) Roy will call the New Hampshire Department of Transportation for an expense estimate for Lawrence Street bridge as well as the projected year for Federal funding.

TA Roy will call the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) for wording on the warrant article for the police cruiser. Chief Laramie reported that \$25,000 would cover the cost of the cruiser.

The replacement date for the ambulance needs to be published.

Capital Reserve Fund Highway Equipment to be funded with ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00).

New: Expendable Trust Fund for operation of Town buildings; maintenance and repair. Six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00) naming the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend.

Sale of tax deeded properties: not necessary to state the method that will be used.

See Selectmen on page 13

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Selectmen from page 12

Warrant article to change from an elected road agent to a hired road agent. Can the Board spend time researching the particulars after Town Meeting, or does it need to be specified in the warrant article? This will not be a full-time position, but approximately 25 hours per week March to October and 20 hours per week the rest of the year.

Selectman Danforth reported that the State has asked us to set up a housing authority and a transportation authority. The 2014 Town Meeting could establish the authority for the Board of Selectmen to establish these authorities.

It would be helpful to the public if we publish the DRA form that shows the Town Meeting decisions.

Police Department Report

Selectman Danforth questioned the absence of crosswalk signs. Town Administrator Roy will call the New Hampshire Department of Transportation about crosswalk signage.

A member of the Board will meet with Proctor and AE/MS about "Yield to Pedestrian" signs in the road.

The Police Department has met the training hours quota for the year, and officers have qualified with firearms.

Chief Laramie reported that a new officer is being hired and the background check is being done by Sheriff's office. The Board agreed that the Chief should go ahead and hire Tim Dow as the new part-time officer.

Semi-Annual Tax Billing

Selectman Mishcon reviewed the benefits to the Town, including better cash flow and not having to pay large sums of interest on money borrowed to pay the bills while waiting for tax money to come in.

Selectman Danforth wants to talk with the Town Clerk-Tax Collector, get a list of taxpayers in arrears, and send letters to them offering a meeting with the Town to look at individual situations and possible solutions, such as Elderly Exemptions.

Selectman Mishcon moved to go to semi-annual tax billing, effective for the 2014 tax year. The motion was seconded by Selectman Coolidge. The motion carried.

The Board reiterated its desire to notify delinquent taxpayers of the willingness of the Board to meet with them to try to find a solution to their delinquency.

December 30, 2013 Work Session

Condensed from notes

Present: Selectmen Danforth and Coolidge; Town Administrator Roy

Encumbrances: Selectman Danforth moved to encumber \$4,500 from the Cable TV-Web site expense line for Web site design and development. Selectman Coolidge seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Selectman Danforth moved to encumber \$10,000 for Town Office renovations, repairs to basement windows, file cabinets, and replacement of the broken upper window on the north side of the building. Selectman Coolidge seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

TA Roy reported that refunds for incomplete building inspections would be sent out on January 10, 2014 but will be properly accounted for as a 2013 event.

Conservation Commission

November 13, 2013

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Members Larry Chase, Tina Cotton, Jerry Hersey (acting chair). Guests Derek Mansell, Sandra Graves. Excused absent: Mary Anne Broshek, Nan Kaplan.

Town Lands

Members voted unanimously to recommend that the Town maintain ownership of two properties in the Bradley Lake watershed. The properties were acquired years ago for non-payment of taxes. Town ownership means no further development on them, which will help protect the town's water supply.

Members also voted unanimously to recommend that the Town maintain ownership of two other parcels located in the Dyers Crossing area of East Andover. Town ownership can help protect the surrounding wetlands, wildlife corridors, and the undeveloped "gateway" to our scenic rural town.

Responding to a request from Duncan Coolidge to identify potentially dangerous trees on Highland Lake Is-

land, members agreed to discuss at the December meeting.

Planning for 2014

Larry volunteered to arrange a meeting with Hopkinton's Conservation Commission to learn about that town's creation of a Village Greenway Trail.

Members supported the offering of a "Climate Change and Wildlife" program. Larry will investigate.

On a motion by Larry, members agreed to discuss other possible events and programs at the December meeting. (See complete listing of potential events/programs in October 2013 minutes.)

Larry reported that he had attended the annual meeting of the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions on November 2. Members voted to thank him for paying expenses associated with his attendance.

Mary Anne, Nan, Jerry, and Tina attended the forestry wildlife program offered by Eric Johnson, Dave Pilla, and Tim Fleury on the Johnson property that same day.

Derek reported his willingness to participate in monitoring of conservation easements held by the Town. These include the Bernhard/Mayman, Taunton Hill Realty Trust, Jones, McDonough, Highland Lake Island, Fairall, and Green Mountain easements, as well as the properties in the Bradley Lake watershed and Dyers Crossing area mentioned above. Mary Anne was said to have the forms needed to document monitoring.

2014 Budget Request

Members indicated that a request of \$600, same as last year, for 2014 funds would be made by Mary Anne.

School Board

December 3, 2013

Condensed from approved minutes

Board Present: Don Gould, Michelle Dudek, Anne Swayze, Charlie McCrave, and Kent Armstrong

Administration Present: Mike Martin, Christine Barry, Robin Heins, Kathleen Boucher, Jane Slayton, and Judith Turk

Public Present: Tina Cotton, Arch Weathers

Board Chairperson's Report: Charlie and Don are working with the Merrimack Valley School District Board to select the new superintendent. They are down to the final candidates and will be interviewing later this month.

Good News: Mike acknowledged Jane for the Veterans Day event that was held at AE/MS on November 12. Michelle stated that she has heard various comments out in the community from parents who are pleased with the full day kindergarten program.

Old Business

Contingency (Fund Balance): A memo has been outlined entitled "Tentative Fund Balance" (RSA 198:4-B,II) in the Board Packet. Mike explained See School Board on page 14

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Fifty Years Ago: February 1964

Here's some old news from the Andover, East Andover, West Andover, Potter Place, and Cilleyville "gossip" columns of the Franklin Journal Transcript, selected by Heather Makechnie.

February 6, 1964: Services were held Tuesday for Mrs. Florence (Ross) Morgan, 83, who died Saturday after a long illness. Mrs. Morgan was born in Quebec City and had lived in Andover and Potter Place for 10 years. There are no immediate survivors.

Much sympathy goes to the relatives of Mrs. Florence (Downs) Dodge of Franklin and a native of town. Mrs. Dodge passed away last week. She had attended school here when a girl.

Wilfred Durgin, three year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Durgin Sr., had his tonsils out last week at the Franklin Hospital.

February 13, 1964: In this issue is published an article by Ralph Chaffee on the burial plots within Andover. In it, Chaffee quotes the Honorable Frank Brown and points out that, while it had been written 65 years ago (now 115 years ago), it is just as true in the current day. Brown said about the Fellows, Rainos, Kenistons, Browns, Emerys, Cilleys, Rowses, Marstons, and other early settlers of our town, "It is astonishing to contemplate the changes, and still more astonishing to see how little the present generation knows of those who preceded them. Our fathers who once lived here toiled, suffered, and died, who 'bore the burdens in the heat of the day,' are rapidly being forgotten. Could we have filled their places better?"

February 20, 1964: Mrs. Gracia Snyder, chairman of the Heart Fund, has the following people to help her

with the drive this month: captain of East Andover, Mrs. Bryant Adams with Mrs. Carolyn Currier, Mrs. Francis Carney, Mrs. Marion Marvin, and Mrs. Gerald Walker. Mrs. Gracia Snyder will cover Andover with Mrs. Carl Richard, Mrs. D. McDonald, and Mrs. John Kirk. Mrs. Dennis Fenton is captain of the Plains. Mrs. Henry Powers, Junior will cover Potter Place with the help of Mrs. Bruce Barrett.

February 27, 1964: Congratulations go to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Batman of the Flaghole District on the birth of a girl February 11 at the Franklin Hospital. The baby weighed five pounds, two and a half ounces and was named Roxanna.

Malcolm McDonald of Potter Place has been appointed building inspector in place of Mr. Richard Marvin who has resigned.

Andover PTA met at the elementary school Monday evening with President Gail Sanborn presiding. The teachers' room at the school is completed, and anyone wishing to see it is welcome.

Andover Youth Fellowship held a covered dish supper Sunday evening at the Molly Bachelder room followed by the meeting. Kitty Miller led the worship services. A color film on "Going Steady" was shown, and a lively discussion was held. There were 21 young folk present, and another supper is being planned for March. It is hoped that even more young people will come then.

Congratulations go to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas McLeod on the birth of a daughter at the New London Hospital February 19. The baby weighed five pounds, two ounces. The name is Kelly Jean.

Organic Farmer Mentoring Program Comes to Andover

Applications are being accepted for two Northeast Organic Farming Association, New Hampshire Chapter's Journeyperson Program positions. Each winter, beginning farmers who are in their first few years of running their own farm enterprises are encouraged to apply in order to be connected with a mentor farmer who has experience and expertise in their area of interest.

The first is a standard, off-site program in which the person has access to his or her own land and is establishing a farm business. The second is a resident program at Two Mountain Farm in Andover for a journeyperson who does not have access to land.

For more information, visit TinyURL.com/pdp47ll or e-mail Ray Conner at bof@NOFAnh.org.

School Board from page 13

the process and discussion took place regarding whether funds could be used towards Special Education or other emergency circumstances. No current action is required of the Board.

Facilities Study: Mike continues to gather information to present to the Board in regards to educational specifications that are required for different configurations (K-8 programs or

elementary/middle school separate programs.) Current maintenance plans need to be updated.

New Business

Superintendent Search: Interviews are taking place during the month of December. Don and Charlie are representing Andover.

Flooring: The SAU is awaiting another bid. No action is required at this time.

Easy Snowshoe Hike to Identify Animal Signs

Do you wonder, "What's been here?"

Press release

Are you wondering what kind of animal has been walking around your yard? Come to a snowshoe hike on Sunday, February 9, at 1 PM led by Proctor Academy Woodlands Manager and science teacher Dave Pilla. This is an easy hike with no experience necessary, though experienced snowshoers are welcome, too. Dave has extra snow-

shoes for those who need them.

Meet at the Proctor Woodlands Office, a red building behind the school on North Road. Bring waterproof boots, sunglasses, layered clothing, water, and snowshoes if you have them. New Hampshire Fish and Game animal track cards will be provided.

The bad weather date is the following Sunday, February 16. This event is sponsored by the Andover Conservation Commission and Proctor Academy.



Andover Snowmobile Club's Italian Buffet

Saturday, January 25, at AE/MS

Press release

The Andover Snowmobile Club will hold its annual Italian Buffet fundraiser on Saturday, January 25, from 5 to 6:30 PM at the Andover Elementary/Middle School. Adults are \$10, kids six to 12 are \$5, and children five and under are free.

Come enjoy spaghetti, meatballs, hot Italian sausage, meatless sauce, la-

sagna, tossed salad, garlic bread, and a wide variety of homemade desserts as well as drinks.

The 50/50 drawing will be held at 6:30 PM, and immediately following will be the 100+ multi-item raffle, with all proceeds benefiting Camp Easter Seal (Camp Sno Mo) in Gilmanton, New Hampshire.

Club memberships will be available, and club clothing orders will be taken.



FNRT Minutes: December 18, 2013

Annual meeting re-elects officers and directors

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Alex Bernhard, Steve Darling, Craig Heim, Lindy Heim, Myra Mayman, Ellsworth Morton, Joyce Morton, and Bob Ward; Guests Tim Blagden, Elaine Clow, Bruce Crawford, and Representative Tom Schamberg.

Treasurer Steve Darling reported that we received \$10,000 in foundation grants this month, thanks to the efforts of Craig Heim. These grants are for next summer's trail building.

Special guest Charley Freiberg of Wilmot, photographer and avid bicyclist, reported on the documentation he has been doing with historic preservationist Lisa Mausolf. She was hired by New Hampshire Department of Transportation (DOT) to catalog the historic aspects of the Trail, including culverts and bridges.

Using the Valuation Maps drawn and updated between the mid-nineteenth century and the 1920s, Lisa and Charley have ridden and walked the Trail from Concord to White River Junction. The "Val Maps" (short for Valuation Maps required of all railroads in 1914) show all aspects of the trail down to 1/100th of a mile.

Charley enthused about the impressive stone culverts and bridges and other artifacts of the history of the railroad along the Northern Line. Elaine Clow of Boscawen's Historical Society offered to share the information she has about the Poor Farm cemetery next to the Trail in Boscawen.

Under Technology Report, Lindy Heim said that more than 1,800 people have seen our new map from the *Concord Monitor* on the Trail's Facebook page. Tim Blagden of Warner and Director of the Bike-Walk Alliance said that STRAVA collects GPS info. He believes they can give us counts of people on the trail.

Old Business

Alex Bernhard reported that the work of the 2013 trail construction project extending the Trail to Depot Street in Boscawen had been successfully completed and on budget. Regarding the application for Recreational Trails

funding for 2014, he recommended that we increase the amount of our application from \$20,000 to \$30,000 in order to finish laying stone dust to the Grafton town line. His motion was approved.

There was a discussion about the derelict Gerrish Depot in Boscawen. There is interest in restoring the building because of its historic value and because it sits at a natural trailhead on Route 3. Bruce Crawford of Boscawen opined that the Boscawen Historic Society would be interested, and he thinks the town would also, but they have no funds. Bob Ward offered that the FNRT board would be interested in a joint effort.

Craig Heim reported on foundation grants. Over the past year he submitted 17 applications to foundations. Twelve of these were funded, totaling \$42,500. Appreciation was expressed to Craig for his excellent and effective work.

Alex reported that Lenny Caron is attempting to challenge the DOT decision that he not use the Rail Trail for his gravel trucks.

Regarding a celebration of the Rail Trail's completion, it was agreed that a Boscawen location would be appropriate. Elaine Clow and Bruce Crawford suggested that Boscawen's Old Home Day, the last Saturday in August (August 30, 2014), might be a good date. It takes place at Jamie Welch Park, right on the Rail Trail. This will be discussed further at the January 15 meeting in Boscawen.

New Business

Bob will staff a table at the Andover Snowmobile Club's spaghetti dinner on Saturday, January 25. He will ask Steve Rayno to join him. Bob has custody of the big presentation map.

The formal Annual Meeting took place: the current Directors and Officers were re-elected.

Lindy showed material about the possibility of creating saleable souvenir items (t-shirts, hats, bags, etc.) for our public events. Bruce Crawford offered to advise her based on his experience with another organization. This will be discussed at the April meeting, along with Larry Chase's discovery of a Vermont blacksmith who turns railroad spikes into hooks.



SRKG Offers Winter Hikes through March

January 25 in E Andover, on Tucker Mountain

Press release

The Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge Greenway Coalition (SRKG) winter hikes are free to the public. Please call the volunteer hike leader to learn starting location and time. Be prepared for winter conditions: extra layers, hot drink, prepared for ice and snow.

January Hikes

Saturday, January 18, in Springfield: Andy Hager (526-2846). Cross-country ski on forest road from Twin Lake Villa to Morgan Pond in Gile State Forest. Five miles round trip, moderate difficulty.

Saturday, January 25, in East Andover: Lee Carvalho (735-5719). Frank Baker will lead us on a snowshoe exploration of the Tucker Mountain area. The goal is to reach secluded Weeks Pond. Five miles round trip, moderate difficulty.

February Hikes

Saturday, February 1, in Wilmot: Nick Baer (526-8233). A family snowshoe hike up and over Bog Mountain on SRKG Trail #7. Children with adventurous spirit welcome. 4.6 miles, moderate difficulty.

Saturday, February 8, in Bradford: Brooks McCandlish (938-5354). Snowshoe to Ayers Pond from the old Washington (Mountain) Rd. Four miles with

about 900-foot elevation gain, mostly on old trails with some open bushwacking. Moon Mountain summit may be included. Moderate to difficult.

Saturday, February 15, in New London: Dave Cook (526-6404). The famous "Moonlight Madness" snowshoe hike on the Cook easement trails. Generally starts at 9 PM if the full moon is up. Check with Dave a few days ahead. Moderate difficulty.

Saturday, February 22, in North Sutton: Nathan Richer (344-0287). If Mother Nature cooperates, this will be a cross-country ski tour of the old King Ridge ski area, off SRKG trail #13. Moderate difficulty.

March Hikes

Saturday, March 1, Mount Sunapee and Pillsbury State Parks: Gerry Gold (526-2857). Snowshoe to Lucia's Lookout on Sunapee-Pillsbury Ridge from Andrew Brook Trail and Lake Solitude in Newbury. Difficult.

Sunday, March 9, in Newbury: Lisa Correa (518-281-1494). Snowshoe in Fishersfield Town Park on the hilly Perimeter Trail. Two miles, moderately difficult.

For SRKG information, visit SRKG.com. SRKG Trail Guides are available at local book stores. The SRKG Coalition is an all-volunteer non-profit organization with members throughout the Sunapee-Ragged-Kearsarge region and beyond.



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Public Hearing Scheduled for Bradley Lake Rules Change

Monday, January 27
in Concord

Press release

A public hearing for the proposed changes to the state rules and regulations applying to Bradley Lake will be held on Monday, January 27, at 10:30 AM in Room 112 at the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) offices, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord.

You can find the initial proposal and rulemaking notice under the Proposed Drinking Water and Related Rules (Env-Ws 300; Env-Dw) section of the DES Legal Unit section at AndoverBeacon.com/Bradley_Lake_Rules, according to Holly Green of the DES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau.

The proposed changes to the Bradley Lake rules include:

Domestic animals would be prohibited in the southern end of the lake only.

Fishing would be permitted anywhere on the lake.

The dividing line between swimming (northern) and non-swimming (southern) areas would be identified as the power lines crossing the lake.

Written comments may be submitted until Tuesday, February 11, at 4 PM via e-mail to Holly.Green@des.nh.gov, or via fax to 271-0656, or via mail to HollyGreen, NH DES, Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau, PO Box 95, Concord 03302-0095. Written comments that have been submitted will not be read aloud at the hearing, but all written comments are public records and must be provided to whoever requests them.

If you have questions or would like additional information, contact Ms. Green at the e-mail address above or at 271-3114.

The 15TH !!!!

Please have everything to the *Beacon* by the 15th of each month!



Andrew Pinard's zany family magic and comedy show returns to the area at the Franklin Opera House on Saturday, February 22, at 2 PM and 7 PM.

Classic Magic and Comedy Comes to Franklin Opera House

Andrew Pinard on
Saturday, February 22

Press release

There will be fun for the whole family when Absolutely Magic and Company present a magic and comedy show at the historic Franklin Opera House in Franklin on Saturday, February 22. There will be a one-hour matinee performance at 2 PM followed by a full two-act show at 7 PM.

Produced by award-winning entertainer Andrew Pinard, the show will offer a whimsical mix of theater, sleight-of-hand, spooky comedy, and storytelling. Blending classic magic and comedy with a little help from volunteer assistants, Pinard draws spectators into his zany world of wonder where they leave the mundane world behind and inhabit a magical realm of the impossible and absurd where nothing is what it seems.

Along the way, audiences will experience some of the unique performance pieces including possible visits from: Fu Ling Hu (Oriental Magician), Morty (the Not-So Dummy), Professor Os-

sum: Mad Scientist, and more.

Pinard has performed his unique brand of magic and comedy for thousands of delighted audiences throughout New England and abroad including the Mount Washington Hotel and Resort, The Balsams Grand Resort, Mount Sunapee Ski Resort, Loon Mountain Ski Resort, Sandwich Fair, Andover Historical Society's Old Time Fair, and as far afield as the South Bank in London, as well as Venice and Rome.

A one-act "family-style" performance is scheduled for 2 PM, with the full two-act show at 7 PM. Tickets are available on line at FranklinOperaHouse.org or by calling the box office at 934-1901. Tickets are also available at the door before the show. Refreshments are available.



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INFORMATION SESSIONS

Wed., January 15, 5:30 p.m.
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Arnold Miller, MD
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Wed., February 12, 5:30 p.m.
(Snowdate 2/13)
John Grobman, MD
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“Bring Your Child to the Library” Day is Coming!

February 1st in Andover,
4th in East Andover

Press release

The Andover libraries will celebrate Bring Your Child to the Library Day during the first week of February. See what's new at the Andover libraries. Come to the Andover Public Library on Saturday morning, February 1, from 10 AM until noon. Special activities are planned, including crafts, story times, and music by local musician, Paul Hubert.

The Bachelder Library in East Andover will celebrate Bring Your Child to the Library Day on Tuesday evening, February 4, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Help your child select books, movies, or audio books to enjoy.

A special "bedtime" read-aloud will start at 7:15 PM for the little ones, who may want to bring their favorite stuffed animal with them.

Please join us in celebrating all the wonderful things our Andover libraries have to offer. We look forward to seeing you.



Bachelder Library New Acquisitions

Adult Fiction

Identical, Turov, Scott
The Rosie Project, Simson, Graeme C.

Archimedes Nesselrode, Graykin, Justine

The Dark Witch, Roberts, Nora

The Witching Game, Cascone, Annette

What Doesn't Kill Her, Collins, Max

Adult Non-Fiction

Dog Songs: Thirty-five dog songs and one essay, Oliver, Mary

Wild Tales: A rock and roll life, Nash, Graham

The Reason I Jump: The inner voice of a thirteen-year-old boy with autism, Higashida, Naoki

Orange is the New Black, Kerman, Piper

Children's Titles

Allegiant, Roth, Veronica

Alexa the Fashion Editor Fairy, Meadows, Daisy

Brooke the Photographer Fairy, Meadows, Daisy

Claudia the Accessories Fairy, Meadows, Daisy

Lola the Fashion Show Fairy, Meadows, Daisy

Phoebe the Fashion Fairy, Meadows, Daisy

The Expeditioners, Taylor, SS

I'm A Frog, Willems, Moe

Off We Go!, Hillenbrand, Will

This Is Not My Hat, Klassen, Jon

Too Much Glue, Lefebvre, Jason

Deadtime Stories: Grave Secrets, Cascone, Annette

The Nowhere Box, Zuppari, Sam

Pip and Posy: The Big Balloon, Scheffler, Axel

King of the Zoo, Perl, Erica

Colors by Zeena, Wellington, Monica

Audio Books

The Alchemist, Coelho, Paulo

Up Island, Siddons, Anne Rivers

Through the Reading Glasses: February 2014

By Janet Moore
Andover Library Trustees

Mid-winter is the time for fiction, so here we go.

Ishmael Beah's second book, *The Radiance of Tomorrow*, has been received with great acclaim. After his semi-autobiographical first novel, *A Long Way Gone*, detailed fighting as a boy soldier in Sierra Leone, he has turned to the recovery effort of a group of survivors who return, friend and foe alike, to re-establish village life. Enter, then, a mining company that inadvertently pollutes the village water supply, and another civil strife begins.

The Wind is Not a River, by Andrew Payton, deals with another kind of survival. During the Japanese occupation of two Aleutian Islands in World War II, a journalist masquerading as his fighter pilot brother killed earlier in the war is shot down over the islands. His survival depends partly on his cave mate but mostly on his own will to go on. Meanwhile, his wife back in Seattle joins a USO troop stationed in Alaska, hoping she can discover her husband's

whereabouts.

In Sue Monk Kidd's latest book, *The Invention of Wings*, she bases her story on the real life sisters Sarah and Angelique Grimke, two fiery and infamous radical feminists and abolitionists who were practically exiled from their home in Charleston, South Carolina in the 1830s.

Kidd re-imagines the friendship between Sarah and her birthday-present slave girl, Hetty, who learned to read and write under Sarah's kind tutelage. Their relationship continues in letters and brief visits as both women come to maturity over the years of a broken and ultimately healed nation.

I'll close with Kate DiCamillo's *Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures*, in which 10-year-old Flora deals with her parents' divorce with cynicism, humor, and the aid of a recently vacuumed up and spit out squirrel, who can now fly and type poetry. "Squirt!" becomes Flora's super-hero in the same loving, though not literal, vein that Winn-Dixie did for India Opal in the author's wonderful children's book, *Because of Winn-Dixie*.



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Andover Service Club Looks Back on 2013

... while looking forward to 2014!

By Mary Ofenloch, ASC President

The year 2013 has ended, and the Andover Service Club (ASC) is now looking forward to 2014. The following is ASC in review, highlighting some of the activities for each month of 2013.

January: A grant application was sent to Franklin Savings Bank for the benefit of the ASC Merit Scholarship Fund. It was rejected since FSB has its own scholarship program and does not fund others. Preparations were being made for the ASC scholarship program and for the Fred Marple show in April.

February: The Soup/Chowder Fundraiser for Town Meeting Day in March was discussed. Expenditures to be made toward maintenance and necessary purchases for the Thrift Shop were approved. Final income from the 2012 Thanksgiving Pie Sale was \$1,280. Members chose the Highland Lake Grange Hall for Guest Night in April.

March: Soup/Chowder Fundraiser net income was \$414. Fred Marple Show

on April 20 was finalized, and brochures were distributed. The Sunapee Singers will perform at Guest Night. The new 2013-2014 budget was being prepared. Members took a field trip to King Arthur Flour in Norwich, Vermont.

April: Guest Night on April 10 was poorly attended. It will be canceled in the future due to lack of interest. Nominations to the Executive Board for 2013-14 would be sought. Fred Marple Show on April 20 had 98 tickets sold and raised \$500 after expenses. April was Volunteer Appreciation Month.

May: The Scholarship Committee met on May 6 to review applications for the ASC Merit Scholarships. The new budget was presented to the members for their review. The budget was increased by \$650 from the previous year. Nominations for the Executive Board were presented.

More volunteers are needed to work at the Thrift Shop, and several repairs are needed. Support for the Thrift Shop is needed as it is the largest contributor to the scholarship program.

The total number of birthday cakes baked for Proctor students in 2013 was



Caroline Moulton, Gerry Tobin, Kathy Kelley, Sandy Miller, Judy Evans, Beryl Sanborn, and Betsy McDonald enjoy the Andover Service Club's annual Christmas luncheon, this time held at the Lake Sunapee Country Club.

Photo: Mary Ofenloch

147, for a total income of \$1,704.

June: Meeting was held at the June luncheon at Alan's of Boscawen on June 12. The new slate of officers and the 2013-14 budget were unanimously approved. Five scholarships were awarded for a total of \$5,000.

No meetings were held in July and August.

Fourth of July Pie Sale netted \$615, down about \$300 from last year.

September: Meeting began with a silent remembrance of the attack on September 11, 2001. Charlie Darling, editor/publisher of The Andover Beacon, spoke to members about the Beacon's new fundraising campaign.

Since there was no lunch fundraiser due to no election in November, members approved the "Gifts Galore" raffle of two baskets of assorted craft items. See Service Club on page 20

Andover Service Club Scholarship Applications Available

Completed applications due by May 2

By Diane Rice, Andover Service Club

The Andover Service Club is pleased to announce that the application process for the 2014 scholarship awards has begun. Awards are based on academic performance, character attributes, and community involvement and not on financial need.

Graduating seniors and adults entering or continuing their education at

a college or a professional or technical school are eligible to apply. Scholarship applications are available at the Andover Elementary/Middle School, Proctor Academy, Merrimack Valley High School, and the Andover Service Club Thrift Shop located in Andover. They may also be downloaded at AndoverBeacon.com/ASC-Scholarship.

To be eligible for a scholarship, applicants must have a close tie to the town of Andover. Details of the residential requirements are available in the application packet. All applications and supporting material must be postmarked by Friday, May 2, in order for the application to be considered.

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Jim and Judith Brewer, Tom Curran, and Kathy Neustadt enjoy a hearty Bistro lunch at the Blazing Star Grange's January market in Danbury. This month's Winter Market will be held on Saturday, February 2, at the Blazing Star Grange Hall in Danbury.

Blazing Star Bistro a Big Hit at Grange's Monthly Market

Free demo space offered for new vendors

Press release

Snowy roads and below freezing temperatures don't scare Blazing Star Grange Winter Market patrons! After a quiet start, the January winter market was bustling.

Candy, wine, jewelry, and warm clothing were big sellers upstairs, while shoppers' canvas bags bulged with meat, milk, bakery items, and produce from the downstairs market.

The kitchen was busy, with people gathering at The Bistro for conversation over breakfast and lunch.

Be sure to not miss next month's market on Saturday, February 1, which will feature vendors' specials for Valentine's Day giving. The Saturday, March 1 market will be a "White Sale" with 20% to 50% off vendors' selected items. Bargains galore!

And look for "Who's in the Bistro window?" – a monthly surprise!

Demo-Freebie Opportunity

If you're a new business (or new to us), take advantage of Blazing Star Grange Winter Market's offer to new businesses to introduce themselves to our customers.

If space is available and if you qualify, you can spend a day at our market showing or demonstrating your product. For the benefit of our regular vendors, we ask only that you not sell any items. Telling about your product or distributing brochures, business cards, or other information about your particular product is permitted and encouraged.

To apply, please contact Donna Sprague at 768-5579 and ask about the Demo-Freebie program.

Sweet Deals at February's Winter Market in Danbury

Just in time for Valentine's Day

Press release

Mark your calendar for a great shopping experience on Saturday, February 1, at the Blazing Star Grange Hall in Danbury from 9 AM to 1PM.

The vendors at the Danbury Winter Market are "all heart" – they understand that finding the right Valentine's Day gift for your special person takes thought. So they're doing their part by offering specials in time for the sweetest of all days.

Hummingbird's Creations is offering all heart, red, and pink jewelry at a 30% discount. (And these are really sweet!)

To warm his or her heart, Haunting Whisper Vineyard is discounting the medal-winning red wines they'll bring to the market on February 1 – maybe Sunapee Red, Syrah and Malbec? (Lovely, whichever one it is!)

Or "keep your love warm" in one of Marjie Gorman's colorful scarves.

Bring a smile to his (or her) face with a pair of mittens from Newfound Farm Clothing. They're made of recycled fabrics, which will really bring a smile. Selected mittens are on special for 30% off – a heartwarming bargain.

Bistro de L' Etoile Enflamme will not only have its famous Egg McGrange for breakfast, but also savory Potato-Leek soup and a casserole for lunch. If you can't wait, treat your sweetheart (and yourself) to a piece of decadent chocolate cake – by the slice – to enjoy with a cup of coffee.

While you're there, check out "Who's in the Bistro window?," a monthly surprise. Don't miss out on the fun! See you there.

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Service Club from page 18

and gifts. The winning tickets would be drawn at the December Christmas luncheon.

October: Thanksgiving Pie Sale on November 26 and 27 was being organized and finalized. A letter was sent to the Road Agent regarding plowing concerns at the Thrift Shop. Raffle ticket sales were going well. Christmas luncheon to be held at Lake Sunapee Country Club on December 11.

November: Thrift Shop sales were doing much better. New volunteers are a huge help. Members voted their approval for the installation of a new steel roof, to replace the old shingle roof which was in bad shape, at the Thrift Shop. Mead and Braley will be the company installing the new roof. The Thanksgiving Pie Sale was November 26 and 27 at Circle K in Potter Place.

December: Meeting took place at Lake Sunapee Country Club on December 11 with 37 members attending. Baked goods would be sold at Bluewater Farm on December 15. Members

voted to participate in the "Rail Trail Run and Ride" in September 2014 by selling baked items and drinks. Winners of the "Gifts Galore" raffles were Nance Barrett of Andover and Amy Ballou of Canaan.

2014: The new year came in "like a lion" with lots of snow and below freezing temperatures. The January 8 meeting at Potter Place was held in spite of the weather. Many members opted to stay at home, but those who braved the weather received the good news of the financial success of our last three fundraisers. The 2013 Thanksgiving Pie Sale raised \$1,073 after expenses; the raffle raised \$1,178; and the bake sale at Bluewater Farm raised \$87.

The ladies of ASC wish to express our sincere gratitude to the people of Andover and surrounding communities who have been so kind and so generous throughout the past year.

I also wish to thank all of the members and volunteers who have worked so tirelessly to make 2013 a fruitful year for ASC. May God bless us, every one!



Meeting to Consider the Future of Andover Food Pantry

How should the food pantry be run?

By Dan Coolidge, Chair
Andover Lions Club
Food Pantry Committee

Myths and gossip abound about the Andover Food Pantry and how it is run; so many, in fact, that the Andover Lion's Club has formed a committee to consider the future of the Andover Food Pantry and to gather information about problems that might exist and to come up with solutions.

The Andover Food Pantry was started five years ago by the Andover Lions Club and The Andover Beacon. It was purposely set up to be simple to run. It was to be something that required almost no staff or overhead to run. It was to be open, on the honor system, to anyone who thought they needed the food. No one would be turned away, no embarrassing questions would be asked.

Now, after five years of operation, some people are concerned that residents of other towns may be coming to the Andover Food Pantry and that access should be limited. Others say some people abuse the open door policy by taking more than a fair share of food. Some will no longer donate to the Andover Food Pantry unless it changes the open door / honor system policy.

Other people say the food pantry is just fine, that it is getting food into the hands of those who feel they need it. These people think that if the food pantry were to require some evidence of eligibility, some people who need the food would be too proud to go through the embarrassment of proving their need. Why should hungry people be turned away because they live on the

wrong side of a town line?

The Lions Club Food Pantry Committee has set a meeting for Thursday, February 13, at the Town Hall at 7 PM to consider the future of the Andover Food Pantry. We want the views of all who have an interest in the Food Pantry: people who want to help out, people who donate, people who make use of the Food Pantry, and those who have an interest in how the Food Pantry operates. We want to see the Food Pantry succeed, and need your thoughts on how that might best be done.

Among the issues to be considered:

- What are the facts behind the rumors? Are the perceived problems real?
 - What would a well-run Andover Food Pantry look like?
 - How would it be run? Who would set policy for how it is operated?
 - Should the food pantry be run by an independent volunteer organization, which would arrange for staffing and set policy and undertake fundraising and food collection?
 - Should the food pantry be open to anyone? Or should there be eligibility requirements?
 - Should the pantry only be open for a few hours each week? When?
 - Should the pantry only be open to Andover residents? What about Wilmot? Salisbury? (Danbury already has its own food pantry.)
 - Should the food pantry continue to operate on the honor system, or should food quantities be limited?
 - How would access and quantity limitations be enforced? By whom?
- We want your ideas. We need to hear your concerns. The Andover Food Pantry is a good idea. Please help us make it better.





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Meet the Artists at February's First Friday Event

February 7
at New London locations

Press release

The community is invited to the Lake Sunapee Region Center for the Arts (CFA) "First Fridays" program on Friday, February 7, from 5 to 7 PM. Gallery openings and artists' receptions are taking place at several New London locations. All Center for the Arts First Friday events are free and open to the public.

Join us for great art, light refreshments, and a chance to meet the artists at the three CFA Micro Galleries. All are located on Main Street in New London. Many First Friday attendees enhance their evening with a walking tour to each gallery! Each Center for the Arts Micro Gallery features the art of regional artists working in a variety of media.

The Micro Gallery at Zero Celsius Wealth, 228 Main Street, will host the Fine Art of John Sirois. John has been painting for 20 years. He prefers to paint on location, because he is better able to capture the color, light, and the energy of a landscape. John studied for many years with Sid Willis as well as Don Stone, Lois Griffel, and Charles Sovek. His work has been shown at the Salmagundi Club in New York, as well as the America Artists Professional

League, and at the Currier Museum in Manchester.

Country Houses Real Estate, 370 Main Street, will host the photography of Maureen Rosen. Maureen is a self-taught photographer who combines her computer expertise with her digital photography. Maureen's computer becomes the "darkroom," and the camera is the "paint brush." She held her first photography show several years ago and since then has been featured at the Tatewell Gallery in New London.

Her photography appears on many area Web sites, and she has been the official photographer for the Adventures in Learning course catalog at Colby-Sawyer College since 2009.

The New London Inn, 140 Main Street, will host the work of Susan Parmenter. Susan begins by saying, "Painting and drawing take me on a journey of expression which I cannot achieve with words." She likes to work in oils or pastels in a realistic or sometimes impressionist style. "I prefer painting and creativity without rules."

The Center for the Arts is a volunteer organization which welcomes your participation. If you would like to volunteer, perform, or sponsor a program, please contact us at 526-4444. For more information, please visit CenterForTheArtsNH.org.



Marissa Laro was named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2013 semester. Marissa is majoring in Accounting at the Stiller School of Business at Champlain College in Burlington, Vermont. Marissa is pictured with Champlain College mascot Chauncey T. Beaver.



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Community Time Banking is the Topic at Graze

In New London on February 4

Press release

If the idea of using skills you enjoy in exchange for getting work done that you cannot do yourself sounds appealing, you're invited to join the Conversation Cafe on Tuesday, February 4, beginning at 5 PM, at Graze Sustainable Table, 207 Main Street in New London. Sponsored by the Kearsarge Valley Transition Initiative (KVTI), discussion of "Sharing The Wealth: Community Time Banking" will be led by Lisa Conlan, former CEO of Timeberbanks USA, founder of a time bank in Providence, Rhode Island, and co-trainer of hOurworld cooperative, a software design non-profit that assists local communities in establishing time banks.

Put simply, a time bank is a local organization whose members agree to supply goods or services to one another in return for other goods or services. The value of the exchange is measured in terms of hours donated rather than in dollars, valuing the work one enjoys and the development of community relationships.

This event is the third in the monthly Conversation Cafe series planned by the Kearsarge Valley Transition Initiative to encourage local folks to think

about how their communities can be more sustainable and resilient. The series offers an opportunity for residents to share conversation, a glass of wine, and some outstanding, specially prepared hors d'oeuvres with friends and neighbors on a night Graze is usually closed.

Conversation and food begins at 5 PM. At 6 PM, Ms. Conlan will talk about the growing popularity of the time bank concept, how it works, and how it can benefit local communities. There will be plenty of opportunity for questions, continued discussion, and eating until 7:15 PM.

Since Graze is usually closed on Tuesdays, and in order to prepare enough food for everyone, it is suggested that to ensure a spot, those interested in attending call Graze at 526-2488 by 5 PM the preceding Friday, January 31, to make a reservation. The cost is \$15 per person for food, with a cash bar.

The Kearsarge Valley Transition Initiative encourages the nine towns (including Andover) in the Kearsarge Valley to develop a greater reliance on local resources – food, energy, and human resources in particular. For more information, visit KearsargeTransition.wordpress.com, and check upcoming events at MeetUp.com/Transition-Kearsarge.

Free Speaker Series Continues in South Danbury

February 7 and 21 at the church

Press release

In January, the South Danbury Church kicked off the second year of its Speaker Series with the addition of supper – a light meal of soup and salad – offered before the presentation to help "warm up" the audience.

"People enjoyed the Soup Nights last month so much that we've decided to keep it going for the rest of our winter session," explains Kathy Neustadt, one of the series' organizers. "Everyone seems to enjoy a warm bowl of soup, especially in the winter."

The meal begins at 6:30 PM and is free to the public (though donations will be accepted), followed by the talk at 7 PM.

The topic for Friday, February 7, is "Making Wine in New Hampshire," presented by Eric and Erin Wiswall

of the Haunting Whisper Vineyards in Danbury. The couple bought their 75-acre property in 2005 and – lots of work and hundreds of vines later – in 2009 produced their first wine.

Neither of the Wiswalls had experience in making wine originally. They both came from a corporate background: she as a biochemist, and he as an engineer and manager for several networking start-ups. But they've learned by doing. They will talk more about how they started, where the business is today – the Haunting Whisper Vineyards is now producing more than 15,000 bottles of wine annually – some of the complexities of growing grapes in New Hampshire, and the kinds of wine they produce with those grapes.

The South Danbury Christian Church is located at 1411 US Route 4 in South Danbury. For more information about the series, call 768-3191.

Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force Reviews its Year

Thursday, February 13, at Franklin Opera House

Press release

The Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force would like to invite members of the community to attend its next meeting on Thursday, February 13. The meeting will be held at 5 PM at the Franklin Opera House, and light refreshments will be served.

"This event is a great opportunity for members of the community to find out what the Task Force is doing in their community," says Coalition Coordinator Brandy Underwood. "We truly hope that people will take the time to learn about the good things happening with the Task Force, and how they can be involved."

The Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force recently moved into a new, more visible and accessible space at the Besse Rowell Community Center and is excited about what the future will bring. The February meeting is going to be a "year in review." Information and data about 2013 Task Force initiatives and updates about initiatives that are in progress will be shared. Katy Shea, evaluator from the Community Health Institute, will be reviewing the results of the 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey completed by Franklin and Hill youth.

When first established, the Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force identified three substance abuse issues to address: prescription drugs, underage drinking, and marijuana. In the past three years, the Task Force has made significant progress including the establishment of a free 24/7 Disposal Box for prescription medications at the Franklin Police Department; media campaigns and educational outreach; and the establishment of the Franklin Youth Initiative (FYI).

The Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force began with the vision of Mayor Ken Merrifield. It has since grown into a coalition of actively engaged individuals and organizations from all sectors of the community working together for a common goal: a healthy environment for the drug- and alcohol-free development of our youth and families.

Like all good coalitions, the stronger the collaborations, the bigger the rewards! More Task Force members are needed and wanted. You are invited to attend our February meeting to learn more about what the Task Force is doing to achieve its goals and how you can be part of the solution.

For more information, contact Brandy Underwood at 998-5337 or TaskForceInfo@FranklinNH.org. You can also click on the link at the bottom of the page at FranklinNH.org.



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Andover After School Program

By Diane Adams, Director

Happy New Year, everyone. We just came back from a long vacation with new projects and a few changes. We had a holiday celebration, and every child here got to pick a number and unwrap a present to keep here at the Annex. This is the fourth year in a row that we have done this. It is a big hit. The kids really do a great job understanding that the gifts remain here, and somehow they are just as excited.

I was discussing Elf on a Shelf with one of my students. He was very excited about the whole concept. I added to

his excitement by asking if he thought an Elf on the Shelf would come to my house. He exclaimed, "Don't worry, Ms. Adams, if he doesn't come, you can go buy one at Target!"

Thanks to all of my families who have helped us out along the way in 2013. I am looking forward to another great year. We do have some openings. Please contact us at 735-6566 or AndoverKids@gmail.com with any inquiries or questions, or feel free to stop in and check us out. Signing your child up is easy and can be one day or a full week. Stay warm!

EAVP Gets New Space with a Classroom Loft

Room for Dramatic Play and Library

By Elizabeth Janvrin, Director

Happy New Year to all of the Andover community! We ended our year with a very generous, surprise Secret Santa gift. The week before our holiday break, we received a delivery. In our delivery was a classroom loft, which allows us to use an area of our classroom for two learning centers: Dramatic Play and Library.

By adding the loft to our classroom, we have also opened up space to have a more focused and designated Science and Discovery area. We are very excited for the new addition and all of the possibilities that it brings, Thank you, Secret Santa!

Our holiday break excitement was also heightened by a visit from the local traditional Santa. Thank you for making an extra special visit to our preschool!

As I am writing this, we have been working very hard on our re-enactment of The Mitten and our special winter songs for the annual Winter Wonder-

land Show. The group loves to perform in the classroom and is sure to shine on the stage.

Our classroom discussions have also taken a turn towards dinosaurs, what their names are, and what they eat. With pictures in hand, each child has been using their observation skills to share facts about the various dinosaurs in our small group settings.

There has also been fun measuring dinosaur bones with blocks, stepping inside a Triceratops footprint and using our bodies to measure it, along with using graphs to share our favorite dinosaurs.

Many of us have been learning and practicing the unique dinosaur names as we have played Go Fish, Memory, and Bingo. We have also stepped into the role of paleontologists and been searching for fossils to build dinosaurs.

With the start of the new year, we are beginning to plan our Summer Camp Program and next school year. If you would like more information, please contact us at 735-5105 or EAVP@tds.net.

Volunteers Needed for New Hospital Sitter Program

Companionship for FRH and LRGH patients

Press release

LRGHealthcare is proud to introduce the Hospital Sitter Volunteer program at Franklin Regional Hospital and at Lakes Region General Hospital. The Hospital Sitter Program is about improving the care, health, and well-being of patients.

Hospital Sitters will provide one-on-one companionship to patients. As a volunteer Hospital Sitter, you may read, talk, play games, or just provide companionship to a patient.

Hospital Sitters will be a valuable resource to many families who are unable to take time off to be in the hospital with family members who are patients. Sitters will provide these families with peace of mind knowing that a caring person is with their sick loved one. Sitters will operate under the direct supervision of the patient's nurse.

LRGHealthcare volunteer services is searching for compassionate, caring, personable, and reliable volunteers to become Hospital Sitters. Are you think-

ing of switching to a healthcare career? Are you in a healthcare program and are looking for hospital experience? What a great way to give back to your community and help out!

Volunteer applicants must be 18 years of age or older. Volunteer shifts are available seven days a week from 8 AM to noon, noon to 4 PM, 4 PM to 8 PM, or 8 PM to midnight. Still interested, but unable to commit to a four-hour shift? Contact us, and we will find the best hours to fit your schedule.

If you're interested in this great volunteer opportunity, please contact LRGHealthcare Volunteer Coordinator Darcy Peary at 737-6720 or DPeary@LRGH.org.

LRGHealthcare is a not-for-profit healthcare charitable trust representing Lakes Region General Hospital, Franklin Regional Hospital, and affiliated medical providers. LRGHealthcare's mission is to provide quality, compassionate care and to strengthen the well-being of our community.

Please Help!

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15% of 12th graders surveyed in a national study said they had used prescription (Rx) drugs WITHOUT a prescription within the past year. * 2013 MTF

For tips on how to talk to your kids about drugs and alcohol click on the Drug Task Force link at:



www.franklinnh.org

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OBITUARIES

GLADYS E. (HADLEY) BROOKS, 99, formerly of New London, died on December 5, 2013 at Elm Wood Center in Claremont. She was born in Antrim on November 27, 1914, the daughter of Horace E. and Sadie E. (Adams) Hadley. She graduated from Andover High School in 1935 and then moved to New London in 1941.

Gladys had been employed by Colby Junior College and then Colby-Sawyer College as a maid and faculty waitress and then retired in 1984 as a switchboard operator after 42 years of service to the College.

She was a member of the First Free Baptist Church of Wilmot; Past Master of the New London Grange; Past Noble Grand of Crystal Rebekah Lodge; and Past District Deputy of three lodges.

Her husband, Theodore L. Brooks, died in 1977. Members of her family surviving include her sister, Ruth H. Bennett of Claremont; two nieces, Jo Ann E. Bennett-Mason of Ocala, Florida and Lou Ann E. Bennett of Live Oak, Florida; a grandniece, Sarah E. Raid of Port St. Lucie, Florida; and a great-grandniece, Sophia Elizabeth Raid; and cousins.

A graveside service will be held in Proctor Cemetery in the spring. Memorial contributions may be made

to Tracy Memorial Library, 304 Main Street, New London 03257 or to Norris Cotton Cancer Research Center, One Medical Center Drive, Lebanon 03766.

To sign an online guestbook, please visit ChadwickFuneralService.com.

LEONARD N. PERREAULT, 80, of Billerica, Massachusetts, died on Friday, December 6, 2013, at the Woodbriar Nursing Center in Wilmington, Massachusetts.

He was born on October 5, 1933 in Danvers, Massachusetts, the son of the late Adrien and Isabelle (Boudreau) Perreault. He was raised and educated in Danvers and went on to earn an engineering degree from Northeastern University. He was employed as an engineer at GTE Sylvania for many years.

Among surviving family members are his sister and brother-in-law, Yvette and George Crane of Andover.

Relatives and friends were invited to visitation on December 10 in the Mackey Funeral Home, Danvers, Massachusetts. A funeral Mass was celebrated the next day at St. Mary's Church in Danvers. In lieu of flowers, kindly make memorial donations to the Danvers People to People Food Pantry, PO Box 2076, Danvers MA 01923.

GILBERT O. GAUDETTE, age 91, a resident of Andover, formerly of Lowell, Massachusetts, passed away on Wednesday, December 18, 2013, at the New London Hospital. He was the beloved husband of the late Eleanor L. (Farnsworth) Gaudette.

Gilbert was born in North Chelmsford, Massachusetts, on August 2, 1922, a son of the late Napoleon and Grace (Bessette) Gaudette. He attended Chelmsford schools and was a graduate of Chelmsford High School.

Prior to his retirement, he had been employed for many years by New England Telephone.

Gilbert proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps during World War II and Korea. He was a former member of the Lowell Lodge of Elks No. 87.

He also enjoyed fishing, and most of all, spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

His survivors include two sons, Michael E. Gaudette and his wife, Barbara, of Uncasville, Connecticut and Oliver J. Gaudette of Andover; one daughter, Elizabeth M. Gaudette of Rochester; four sisters, Alma Knight of Florence, South Carolina, Theresa Knight of Manchester, Rena Gaudette of Tewksbury, Massachusetts, and Rita Ayotte of Lowell, Massachusetts; two grandchildren, Stephanie Hoffman and her husband, Ryan, of Marlborough, Connecticut and Timothy Gaudette and his wife, Ann, of Worcester, Massachusetts; one great-grandson, Connor Hoffman of Marlborough, Connecticut; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Family and friends called on December 27 at the Archambault Funeral Home in Lowell. Gilbert's funeral Mass was celebrated the following day at St. Margaret's Church in Lowell. Interment with military honors followed at the Lowell Cemetery. Donations in memory of Gilbert may be made to the American Cancer Society, 30 Speen Street, Framingham MA 01701-9376.

HAZEL (HOLLAND) FRINK, 79, of Woodstock, Connecticut, died on December 19, 2013 in Coventry, Rhode Island. She was predeceased by her husband of 55 years, Barrett Frink. He died on January 26, 2012.

She was born on September 17, 1934 in Providence, Rhode Island, the daughter of the late Jerome V. and Minnicent "Penny" (Bates) Holland. She was a graduate of the St. Xavier High School and the Rhode Island School of Pharmacy. She was a member of St. Stephen Church in Quinebaug, Connecticut and a member of the Church Ladies Guild. She enjoyed knitting, dancing, and singing.

She leaves a daughter, Karen Frink of Elkins; a grandson, Cameron Holland Wood of Andover; a niece, Cheryl Blackmer of Woodstock, Connecticut; and several cousins. A funeral service will be held in the spring in North Woodstock Cemetery. To share a memory with her family, "Light a Candle" at SmithAndWalkerFH.com.

BRYANT HARRISON ADAMS, 86, of East Andover, died at his home on December 28, 2013. Bryant was born in Franklin and resided in East Andover most of his life. He was a graduate of the former Andover High School. During World War II, he served in the US Army 460th TC Amphibious Truck Company.

He was employed as a service technician at Kidder Fuels for 36 years. Bryant was a long time member of the East Andover Fire Department and formerly served as Chief. He was a member of the Free Masons for over 50 years.

He enjoyed gardening, both vegetable and flower, and was Keeper of the
See Obituaries on page 25



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Obituaries from page 24

Highland Lake Dam for many years.

Bryant was predeceased by a son, Tony. Family members surviving include his wife of 61 years, Adrienne (Rousseau) Adams of East Andover; three sons: Timothy Adams of Franklin, Thomas Adams and his wife Brenda of East Andover, and Todd Adams and his wife Candi of East Andover; brother-in-law Ronald Bigelow and his wife Nancy; grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A private memorial service was held. In the spring, a public graveside service will be announced and held at Lakeside Cemetery in East Andover.

Donations in memory of Bryant may be made to the American Cancer Society, 2 Commerce Drive, Suite 110, Bedford 03110.

Thibault-Neun Funeral Home is assisting with arrangements. An online guestbook is available at NeunFuneralHomes.com.

PEARL (RUDMAN) MAYMAN, 99, of New London, died Monday, January 6, 2014 at the New London Hospital. She was born in Malden, Massachusetts on November 4, 1914, the daughter of Harry and Rebecca (Yudenschreiber) Rudman. She lived in Stoneham, Massachusetts until moving to New London in 1993.

Pearl was the youngest of five children and ended up being the last surviving member of her generation, which made her very significant to her nieces and nephews. She was the longest serving elected public officeholder in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and a fierce defender of the First Amendment.

Pearl was Chairman of the Board of the Stoneham Public Library, where they have a children's reading room named after her. In her younger days she was an avid sportswoman, enjoying swimming, fencing, ice skating, and horseback riding. Adventurous, she learned to ski at the age of 50 and continued that sport until she turned 80.

The Boston Symphony was a favorite, along with ballet, music, and theater. She liked to golf and thoroughly enjoyed her membership at Lake Sunapee Country

Club. She was also a member of the Penguin Ski Club at Attitash.

Her husband, Aaron Mayman, died in 1956. Members of her family surviving include a son, Lee Mayman, Art Director of Film, TV, and Theater in New York and Los Angeles, of Marina Del Rey, California; two daughters, Toby Mayman, founding Director of The Colburn School of Performing Arts in Los Angeles, and her husband, J.H.B. Kean of Marina Del Rey, California and Myra Mayman, founding Director of the Office for the Arts at Harvard, and her husband, Alex Bernhard of East Andover; a grandson, Jeremiah Aaron Kean Mayman, artist, of Venice, California; nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held in Sharon Memorial Park, Sharon, Massachusetts. Memorial contributions may be made to Stoneham Public Library, 431 Main Street, Stoneham MA 02180. To sign an online guestbook please visit ChadwickFuneralService.com.

KENNETH IRVING COOMBS, 85, of Andover, passed away peacefully on January 9, 2014, at the Hospice House in Concord following a valiant battle with cancer. He was born in Bath, Maine, on December 13, 1928, to Charles A. Coombs, Jr., and Mildred Coombs Drury.

He reported for US Air Force basic training in August of 1947, following graduation from Morse High School in Bath. After training in control tower operations and air traffic control at Scott Field in Illinois, he was assigned to Borinquen Field (renamed Ramey Air Force Base), Puerto Rico, in January 1948, where he operated the control tower until February 1951, when he was re-assigned as an Air Traffic NCOIC at Dow AFB in Bangor Maine. He was discharged that August, and enrolled at the University of Maine at Farmington, where he earned a Bachelor of Science and Masters degrees in Education.

For the next 10 years, Coombs

taught and coached championship basketball teams at the secondary level. His next 25 years in education were in various administrative positions at the post-secondary level in both Maine and New Hampshire.

He retired from the academic world in 1989 and for the next seven years, with his wife of 29 years, Bonnie, owned and operated several small businesses including a campground, a newspaper, and a printing business.

In addition to entrepreneurial activities, Coombs founded several non-profit organizations over the years, including Disabled Outdoor Experiences (DOE) in Maine, and the Bedford New Hampshire chapter of the Kiwanis Club. He was the District Commissioner of the Daniel Webster Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Commander of the American Legion Post in Berlin, New Hampshire. In 1998, Coombs founded the Ramey Air Force Base Historical Association and served for many years as its President. He was an active rail fan and a lifelong Red Sox fan.

Ken and his devoted wife, Bonnie (Dufour) Coombs, were married in 1985 and have enjoyed their blended family, which includes Ken's four daughters (from his previous marriage to Susan McLafferty) Karalee Ivy Kane of Dover; Kathryn Iris Furbush of Farmington; Karla Irene Coombs of Somersworth; and Kimberly Ingrid Rex of Barrington; and their children Nicholas Kane,

Kaitlyn Kane, Maxwell Furbush, Mason Furbush, Dylan Coombs-Pierce, Samantha Coombs-Pierce, Logan Eldridge, Brittani Rex, and Jacob Rex.

He was especially proud of his first great grandchild, Samantha's little Bradley Griffin, born just 30 days before his death. "Papa's other kids" include James B. Waterman IV, Karen Lynn Niemyer, Andrea Beth Leary, and their children Jesse Scott Niemyer, Garrett James Niemyer, Joshua John Leary, and Joseph Anthony Leary.

Ken's family also includes two brothers, Ronald Charles Coombs of Bath, Maine, Walter Edward Coombs of Brunswick, Maine; and one sister, Carole Ann (Coombs) Harrison of Bangor, Maine. He was pre-deceased by his brother Robert Loring Coombs, and leaves several nieces and nephews.

A memorial service was held at the Cremation Society of New Hampshire in Boscawen on January 15. A military interment will be held in the spring at the New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to your local chapter of the American Cancer Society.



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On November 25, 2013, James Richard (Jim) Graham, a long-time resident of Andover, proud US Navy veteran, and volunteer firefighter attached to the Andover Fire Department, passed away peacefully in his sleep at his home on Plains Road. In accordance with Jim's often-expressed wishes, on December 2 following a memorial service celebrating his life, Jim was carried by a gleaming red fire truck from the funeral home chapel to the New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen.

Surrounded by family, friends, and a large contingent of uniformed firefighters, as Jim was moved to his final resting site, the sorrowful but beautiful sound of a bagpipe being played by a uniformed firefighter echoed throughout the cemetery, bidding a final farewell to a man dearly loved. Jim would have been extremely proud.

There are not enough words to fully express the heartfelt thanks of the Graham family for the honor bestowed on Jim by the presence of the volunteers of the Andover Fire Department and the Andover Emergency Medical Service at his memorial service and interment ceremony. The town of Andover has much to be proud of in such a fine group of committed and dedicated volunteer men and women.

When Jim's health declined such that he could no longer physically maintain his property, his "brother" firefighters volunteered their services to complete the tasks, much as Jim had done for others when he was capable. Jim often mentioned that a reason for his being a volunteer firefighter was a way for him to give back to the town much of what he felt he had received over the years.

~ The Graham Family

Chamber's Busy 2013 Points to More Growth in 2014

Membership up over 50%, with more to come

Press release

On January 13, the Lake Sunapee Region Chamber of Commerce (LSRCC) hosted its annual Membership Meeting, sponsored in part by MJ Harrington and Company, Lake Sunapee Bank, Ledyard National Bank, and Mascoma Savings Bank, at Colby-Sawyer College in the Ware Student Center. This event attracted over 100 people to hear the annual updates from the Chamber.

Pete Fenton Jr., president of the LSRCC, presented the 2013 year-in-review and had a good time giving the membership an overview of the Chamber's accomplishments and what's ahead for the Chamber in 2014. Pete noted that membership grew over 50% in the last two years and the Chamber is looking forward to more growth in 2014.

Some of the other accomplishments that Fenton highlighted were the Chamber's new ambassador program, new Web site launched in 2013, new events such as participation in last year's New London Hospital Days (including a donation to New London Hospital for \$1,500), and the Chamber's new Meet the Chamber Night.

Over the course of 2013, the Chamber hosted more than 16 Business After and Before Hours events, and via a new education committee plans to host several relevant informational presentations this year. Plans are in process for a free community Affordable Care Act Forum on Thursday, February 20, from 5:30 to 7 PM in Colby-Sawyer's Ivey Science Center Clements Hall, co-sponsored by the Chamber and New London Hospital. Confirmation of that

date, along with notice of panel participants, will be sent to all those on Chamber e-mail lists. Also, look for announcements as we get nearer the date.

The Chamber also hosted guest speaker, Jim Snack of the Humor Project, who presented with magic and humor "The Magic of Collaboration." He successfully tied in the theme of collaboration with that of the Chamber's desire to collaborate with the community and businesses year-round to accomplish its goals. The message was one that any business or organization could apply to their own circumstances. The presentation left everyone with a smile!

Business and Community Awards

Capping off the night were the Chamber's third annual Business and Community Awards. The Chamber awarded Business of the Year to Sunapee Cruises out of Sunapee Harbor, and the Community Member of the Year went to Karen Zurheide, Vice President of Community Relations and Development at New London Hospital.

Accepting the award for Sunapee Cruises was the Fenton family! The criteria sought was a business and individual who should be recognized for having made significant contributions to encourage and promote commerce that enhances the quality of life in the Lake Sunapee Region.

DEAN'S LIST Gina Reich

Gina Reich was named to the Dean's List for the Fall semester at Colby-Sawyer College in New London. She is a senior liberal arts major.

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Press release

New Hampshire Electric Cooperative (NHEC) offers you the chance to Ask the Energy Experts. Got a question about energy efficiency or renewable energy? Send your question to: EnergyExpert@NHEC.com and get answers from the Co-op Energy Solutions team.

Q: I've heard a lot of talk about LED lights – both good and bad. Are LEDs a good choice, or should I just go with Compact Fluorescent Lights (CFLs)?

A: Your choice of lighting will depend on how and where you're using it, but LEDs have a lot of advantages over CFLs. For starters, LEDs last many times longer than CFLs – up to 100,000 hours! Also, there's no mercury in LEDs, unlike CFLs, which require special disposal.

Beyond those benefits, you'll also find LEDs provide better quality light over a specific area. Many styles of LEDs are "directional" light sources, which means they emit light in a specific direction, unlike incandescent and CFL bulbs, which emit light – and heat – in all directions. For this reason, LED lighting is able to use light and energy more efficiently in many applications.

LEDs do away with many of the inconveniences of CFLs. For example, LEDs are fully dimmable, unlike CFLs which aren't as versatile with dimmer switches. And unlike CFLs, the initial

lumen output of LED lights is not diminished in cold weather. For that reason, LEDs are great for outdoor applications.

The real proof of LEDs' superiority is in the cost savings. Compare LEDs to incandescent bulbs and the savings can be dramatic. Replacing a 250 watt high pressure sodium wall pack that runs dusk to dawn with a 40 watt LED fixture will save around \$140 a year and last more than 15 years. LEDs' biggest advantage over CFLs is the fact that they last at least three to seven times as long.

LEDs have made great strides of late in both the quality and variety of light color and style. LEDs have always been praised as a lighting source that is closest to natural daylight, but manufacturers have been "warming up" the look of LED light lately by adding substances such as phosphor to give it a look closer to that of an incandescent.

Finally, LEDs are coming down in price. Whereas the typical LED cost \$40 or more just a few years ago, New Hampshire residents can take advantage of \$10 in-store rebates provided by their electric utility to buy an ENERGY STAR certified 10-watt LED (comparable to a 60-watt incandescent) for about \$5.

Advantage: LEDs!

NHEC is a member-owned electric distribution cooperative serving 83,000 homes and businesses in 115 New Hampshire communities, including Andover.

Tanger Outlet Center Raises Money to Fight Breast Cancer

Nearly \$30,000 to LRGHealthcare

Press release

The Tanger Outlet Center in Tilton raised and is donating \$29,960.35 for the battle against breast cancer. During this season of hope and giving, Tanger is making its local donation to LRGHealthcare during a special ceremony at LRGHealthcare.

"It takes all of us working together with a common focus and determination to find a cure for this terrible disease," stated Steven B. Tanger, President and Chief Executive Officer for Tanger Factory Outlet Centers, Inc. "I am proud of our Tanger Team members in Tilton for their continued hard work in fighting breast cancer, and I thank our shoppers for supporting Tanger's mission to find a cure."

Tanger's 2013 PinkStyle Campaign ran from September 12 through October 25, with funds being raised through the sale of the popular TangerStyle Pink Card. For a \$5 donation to local breast cancer beneficiaries, Tanger customers received five special pink savings cards that provided 25% bonus savings at participating Tanger Outlet stores.

In addition to the sale of Pink Cards, Tanger raised money to fight breast cancer through the fifth annual Fit For

A Cure 5K Run/Walk in September. Over 900 participants and more than 25 businesses sponsored this year's race to benefit breast cancer awareness initiatives at LRGHealthcare.

With its primary mission to help save lives, Tanger's annual Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign creates awareness for the importance of early detection and helps raise the money necessary to support ongoing breast cancer research. Tanger's campaign also helps fund many important programs and facilities designed to improve the quality of life for breast cancer patients. Since 1994, Tanger has donated over \$13.5 million to fight breast cancer nationally.

"The doctors and staff at LRGHealthcare understand and value the importance of early detection in regard to breast cancer and other cancers. Funds raised from this year's Tanger 5K and PinkStyle Campaign will help LRGHealthcare as we continue to provide state-of-the-art technology to patients right here in the Lakes and Three Rivers Regions," states LRGHealthcare President and CEO Tom Clairmont.

The Tanger Outlet Center in Tilton features more than 55 brand name and designer outlet stores. The Tanger center is located off Exit 20 on I-93 in Tilton.

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Girls Softball Umpires Wanted!

Training sessions in February

Press release

The New Hampshire Softball Umpire Association (NHSUA) is looking for those interested in umpiring New Hampshire High School Girls Softball. If interested, you should contact Terri Warren for an application at 748-9253 or TWarren29@comcast.net. Information can be obtained from the NHSUA Web site at NHSUA.org.

Clinic Schedule

As an apprentice umpire, you must attend clinics that cover Rules 1 through

10. You can attend either section of each clinic.

Rules 1 through 5 will be covered on Sunday, February 2, from 10 AM to 2 PM at NHTI Health Center in Concord and again on Sunday, February 9, from 10 AM to 2 PM at the Plymouth State University Field House in Plymouth.

Rules 6 through 10 will be covered on Sunday, February 16, from 10 AM to 2 PM at NHTI Health Center in Concord and again on Sunday, February 23, from 10 AM to 2 PM, at the Plymouth State University Field House in Plymouth.

Andover Girls Softball Sign-Ups are Open to All Towns

Sign-ups start February 13 at AE/MS

Press release

The Andover Girls Softball program, for girls ages 4 through 15, will be holding sign-ups at the Andover Elementary/Middle Schools gym lobby. You don't have to be an Andover resident to sign up and play!

Sign-up dates are Thursday, February 13, from 4 to 6 PM; Saturday, Feb-

ruary 15, from 9 to 11 AM; Thursday morning, February 20, during Parents Breakfast; and Saturday, March 1, from 9 to 11 AM. The registration fee is \$35.

Our sign-up deadline is Saturday, March 8, so please get those forms and money back in to have another great fun-filled season. Thanks!

If you have questions, contact Melissa Thompson at AGSSoftballNH@gmail.com or 455-4622, or follow us on Facebook.

Proctor Plans Big Savings While Tripling Light Levels in Gym

\$5,500 annual savings plus environmental strides

By Scott Allenby, Proctor Athletics

Proctor's on-going efforts to improve energy efficiency are seen loud and clear in the recent lighting overhaul in the Farrell Field House.

This lighting project for the gymnasium mirrors the recent investments in high efficiency lighting at the Proctor Ski Area that now allows Proctor to host International Ski Federation-certified night races like the one held on December 31. These large-scale energy efficiency projects not only enhance Proctor's facilities, but make considerable strides towards achieving Proctor's Environmental Mission Statement.

In addition to the high efficiency water fountain installed in the Farrell Field House in early December, athletes and coaches saw considerable upgrades to the lighting system in the facility following winter break. The standard lighting for a high school basketball court is 75 candlelight, but Proctor's gym has been operating at 25 candlelight. To fix this deficiency, 35 new Lusio full-dimming 6M fixtures with Daintree Integrated wireless controls were installed during break.

The new lighting system with Control Scope Software includes wireless switches to turn lights on and off for various functions as well as vacancy sensors to dim lights when they are not needed. The new system will provide facility managers the same remote access from the iPad or mobile phone to turn on and off specific lights that Proctor's Farrell Field Complex enjoys.

As Proctor strives for carbon-neutrality as a core to its Environmental Mission Statement, the yearly savings from this project will exceed 50,000 kilowatts hours while also tripling the available light levels. The lighting up-

grades will save Proctor over \$5,500 a year in annual operating expenses in addition to the savings rebate of nearly \$19,000 from NHEC.

Proctor's Environmental Coordinator, Alan McIntyre, is thrilled with this development and comments, "In-

Proctor Academy's athletic department hopes to see many local spectators at hockey, basketball, and skiing events throughout the month of Feb! Varsity home games in Feb are listed below, but please visit ProctorAcademy.org for updated schedules for all competitive sports.

Varsity Boys Basketball

- Feb 8 vs Marianapolis Prep, 4
- Feb 14 vs Brimmer & May School, 5:30
- Feb 15 vs St. Andrew's School, 3
- Feb 21 vs Vermont Academy, 4

Varsity Girls Basketball

- Feb 12 vs Holderness School, 2:30
- Feb 15 vs St. Andrew's School, 1:30

Varsity Boys Hockey

- Feb 8 vs St. Paul's School, 4:15
- Feb 12 vs Kimball Union Academy, 2
- Feb 15 vs New Hampton School, 2

Varsity Girls Hockey

- Feb 5 vs Brewster Academy, 2:30
- Feb 7 vs Southfield School, 6
- Feb 12 vs Hebron Academy, 4:30
- Feb 19 vs Tilton School, 1:30

stitutional willpower and student passions are important factors in creating a feedback loop that carries our environmental mission forward. Installations like the ones in the gym and the ski hill demonstrate our school's dedication to the mission and fan the flames of hope in students and staff who face a changing planet."

Be sure to come and check out Proctor's basketball teams in action this January and enjoy the new lighting!

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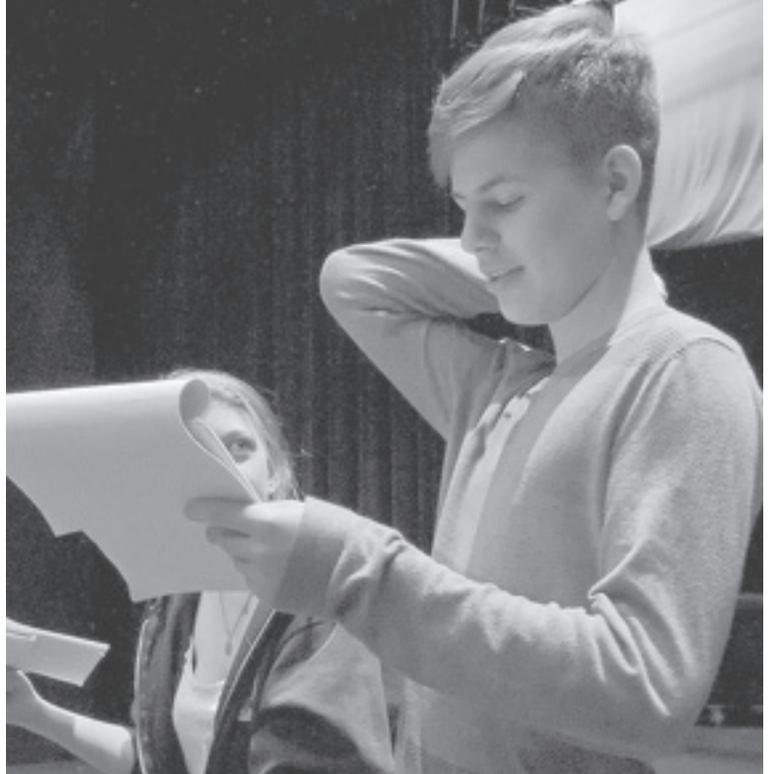
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Trenton Bank of Andover was recently inducted into the National Honor Society, being recognized for leadership, service, character, and scholarship. Trenton has attained a 4.0 GPA in his four years at Bishop Brady High School in Concord. He is pictured with his principal, Trevor Bonat.
Caption and photo: Herbie Bonk



Hunter Bank of Andover has attained high honors for the first quarter at Bishop Brady High School in Concord. Caption and photo: Herbie Bonk



Max Barrett rehearses one of his five roles in *Crazytown*, the Proctor winter play. The community is invited to free performances on February 14 and 15. Photo: Chuck Will

Proctor Drama Presents *Crazytown* on February 14, 15

Max Barrett has five roles!

By Chuck Will
Proctor Academy

Andover's Max Barrett has no fewer than five roles in Proctor Drama's upcoming production of *Crazytown*. Set in "the most messed up town in America," this slap-happy comedy is an evening news show comprised of several

hilarious skits.

Under the direction of senior Bowen Brinegar, the show plays on Friday and Saturday, February 14 and 15, at 7 in the Wilkins Meeting House. Come a few minutes early and enjoy the winter art show, which will be on display throughout the lobbies.

Admission is free, although contributions to the cast pizza party are gratefully accepted.

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The Andover girls basketball team placed second in the Andover Lions Club middle school basketball tournament this year. Back: Haley Heath, Emily Bates, Katelyn Barton, Hannah French, Tiffany Poulin, Coach Jim Tucker; front: Tori Braley, Madisyn Brayshaw, Kathryn Thompson. Photo: Bill Egge



The Andover boys basketball team participated in the Andover Lions Club middle school basketball tournament again this year. Back: Bret Russell, Alex Crucitti, John Maynard, Noah Newton, Coach Jim Tucker; front: Koby Perreault, Collin O'Donnell, Alan Thompson. Photo: Bill Egge

Chichester Sweeps Lions Club's Middle School Tournament

MVPs: Katelyn Barton and Alan Thompson

By Concord Monitor staff

From the December 27 and 29 Monitors

In the first day of the third annual Andover Lions Club middle school basketball tournament, held on December 26 and 27 at Proctor Academy, the Chichester girls defeated Kearsarge 31-8. Kelly Wagner led Chichester with 14 points, while Leslie Angus led Kearsarge with four.

The Andover girls beat Franklin 24-17. Katelyn Barton recorded 18 points for Andover; Hannah Hicks had six for Franklin.

The Kearsarge boys defeated Franklin 39-16. Bennet Pitts and Solomon Neuwirt led Kearsarge with eight points apiece. Matt Reed had eight for Franklin.

The Chichester boys beat Andover, 40-18. Sean Menard had nine points for Chichester. Alex Crucitti and Alan

Thompson led Andover with six apiece.

On December 27, the Chichester boys defeated Kearsarge 39-20 to win the championship. Tyler Smith led Chichester with 13 points, and Andrew Heiner had six for Kearsarge.

Franklin defeated Andover 39-25 in the boys consolation game. Matt Reed scored 20 for Franklin, while Alan Thompson had 16 for Andover.

The Chichester girls beat Andover 29-14 to win the championship. Vikki Mudgett led the way for Chichester with 10 points, while Katelyn Barton had six for Andover.

Kearsarge defeated Franklin 25-12 in the girls consolation game. Leslie Angus notched six points for Kearsarge. Ashley Perry had 10 for Franklin.

Tournament MVPs were Tyler Smith of Chichester and Kara Jarvis, also of Chichester. Andover MVPs were Katelyn Barton and Alan Thompson. Franklin MVPs were Matt Reed and Ashlee Perry. Kearsarge MVPs were Leslie Angus and Andrew Heiner.

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Jesse Niemyer stops at nothing to keep the ball from going out of bounds at AE/MS' December 14 basketball game against Newport. Photo: Jeff Jones

AE/MS Basketball is Under Way

By AE/MS Athletic Department

The AE/MS basketball season is officially underway. The Andover Eagles hosted their first home games of the year when Winnisquam came to town.

The girls, filled with a lot of excitement, started out a little slow. They pulled together led by eighth grader Kate Barton to pull ahead of Winnisquam and never look back. They finished the game with a 30 to 23 victory.

The boys White Team came out on fire. They jumped to an early lead, controlling the first half. The second half proved to be a challenge, as Winnisquam boys came charging back. Leading scorer Jared Frost, with 10 points, helped the team pull together and play great defense to pull off a win. The final score was 26-21.

The boys Blue Team opened their season by taking on a very well-skilled Sunapee boys team. The game was filled with great passing and super defense on both sides of the court. Lead changes went back and forth. With the combination in the third quarter of eighth-grader Alan Thompson leading the charge and support from seventh-graders Ezra Jenifer and DJ Rankins, the Eagles pulled ahead and maintained the lead. The game ended with a 36 to 30 win for Andover.

The girls team played Sunapee girls for their second game of the year. The team played well together. The girls jumped out to an early lead and never looked back. The game was full of action. The Sunapee girls gave a strong final push in the fourth quarter, but in the end, the Lady Eagles held them off, with a final of 38 Andover to 34 Sunapee.

The boys White team enjoyed a dominating win over Inter-Lakes. With amazing defense, the boys pulled out to an early lead and never looked back. Great leadership from the eighth graders on the team allowed the young sev-

enth graders to step up to make this a great win for the Eagles.

Over winter break, the eighth grade boys and the girls team entered into the annual tournament sponsored by the Andover Lions Club. The girls ended the tournament in second place, and the boys placed fourth. MVP for the Andover boys was Alan Thompson. For the girls, it was Kate Barton bringing home the honor of MVP.

The Andover Eagles boys and girls teams next traveled to take on the Lakers of Sunapee. The girls started the evening out a little slow, falling behind to the Lakers in the first quarter. They rallied together and came back in the second quarter. The third quarter was end-to-end action. In the end, the Sunapee Lakers proved to be too much for our girls and pulled off a win by only eight points.

The boys played well and never gave up. The game was back and forth, with Andover taking the lead and then Sunapee coming back. The boys put pressure on the Lakers in the fourth quarter, but in the end ran out of steam and fell to a tough loss of 38 to 28.

Later, the Eagles hosted local rivals Franklin. The girls started out on fire, jumping to an early lead. In the third quarter, Franklin came charging back, pulling to within two points. The girls came together as a team with great passing and good defense and held off Franklin for the win.

The boys struggled in the first quarter to get into game mode, ending the first quarter down by 16 points to a very good Franklin boys team. The Andover boys stepped up their defense and came storming back in the second half. The lead changed back and forth in the third quarter. In the fourth quarter, the Eagles dug deep, jumped into the lead, and never looked back, pulling out a very exciting win.

School Matters!

The *Beacon* needs volunteers to help gather school news, especially news of our Andover students at MVHS! If you can help, please call 735-6099.

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Aiden Cox in Statewide Rock-Paper-Scissors Tournament

Press release

The state-wide Rock-Paper-Scissors Tournament held on December 14 at the Derryfield School in Manchester was open to students from all 350 middle and high schools in New Hampshire. Each of the participating schools sent a single Champion to represent their school in the final tournament. Thirty-five schools were represented from across the state, with Aiden Cox representing Andover Elementary/Middle School.

After four thrilling rounds of intense hand-to-hand competition, a winner emerged from the nail-biting tumult. The 2013 State Champion is Rebekah Johnson. Rebekah is in ninth grade and attends Concord Christian Academy in Concord. The blue bandana-clad Rebekah gave an impressive performance, delivering over 150 skillful individual throws and scoring a record 10 personal victories against other Tournament participants. A skillfully thrown Rock which crushed Scissors earned her the final win, thus becoming New Hampshire's Rock-Paper-Scissors State Champion.

In addition to the thrill and glory of the event and the highly revered title,

Rebekah also received a trophy and collected a \$500 cash prize. Congratulations, Rebekah.

In second place was an enthusiastic Matthew Shipley, a sixth grader who hails from the Lebanon Middle School. Matthew's exuberance, confidence, and early performance was very strong out of the gate, but alas, he fell just shy of his goal of ultimate victory. As second place finisher, Matthew collected a \$250 cash prize.

The third place finisher, Sean Healy, arrived from the Newmarket High School. Sean collected a \$100 cash prize.

Fourth place went to Courtney Comeau from Sanborn Regional High. Courtney was unable to attend the event in-person and competed by proxy, and thanks goes to Lauren Rolfs from Derryfield who acted as Courtney's stand-in.

Other tournament semi-finalists included:

- Noah Marshall from Derryfield
- Keynan Lewton from Oyster River
- Aiden Cox from AE/MS
- Katie Killam from Hopkinton

Congratulations to all who participated. We look forward to seeing you at next year's Tournament.



Arienna Perry, second grade, Ryleigh Perry, kindergarten, and Ollie Grotnes, kindergarten, all members of the AE/MS Kindness Club, were busy making Christmas cards for children who are in the hospital. Photo: Kristy LaRoche

AE/MS Kindness Club Wants to Start a Chain Reaction

39 students work on acts of kindness

By Deana Crucitti
AE/MS Fourth Grade Teacher

Every Monday at AE/MS, students meet after school to plan and perform acts of kindness for their school community and for their community at large. The premise of the club is to spread kindness to everyone.

The club is designed to liberate the inner desire to treat others with kindness and respect. We want to start a chain reaction in our school community.

The club is open to students in kindergarten through eighth grade. Currently, there are 39 students who regularly stay after school. It is wonderful how the older kids work with the younger kids and the conversations

that they have with each other in regard to who and what to help. Some ideas are: help feed animals, help the elderly, show our gratitude to our firemen, policemen, and the list goes on.

We are currently facilitating a winter coat and snowpants drive at the school to help local residents. Students just finished making Christmas cards that they will send to Boston Children's Hospital and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon. The cards will be delivered before Christmas with the intent that children will receive them on or before Christmas.

"I have this theory that if one person can go out of their way to show compassion, then it will start a chain reaction of the same. People will never know how far a little kindness can go." —Rachel Scott.

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AE/MS Looking Forward to 100th Day, Chinese New Year

Visit AEMSeagles.org for more news

By Jane Slayton, AE/MS Principal

January and February are favorite months. We return from Christmas break and enjoy the long, uninterrupted (mostly) stretch of academically productive weeks leading up to February vacation.

Other schools envy us because of our ideal situation at AE/MS. Our students work hard all week and then thoroughly enjoy winter recreation options on Friday afternoons. It would be disruptive if our ski afternoons were any other day than Friday. We are so fortunate that our community makes these options available to our students every year.

Our school is very proud of Coach Nick Fairall. Nick is our spring track coach, and our student athletes have learned a lot from him. An assembly to properly send Coach Nick off to the Olympics was held on January 17. You can bet AE/MS staff members and students will follow the Olympic ski jumping competitions very closely. Go, Nick!

AE/MS is in session on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Tolerance and civil rights are taught through classroom activities. There are many excellent literature options, speakers, projects, and films available.

Congratulations to AE/MS Geography Champion Will Furtkamp! Will, a sixth grade student, was the last one standing after a grueling middle school competition. Runner up was Will's sister Lilly, a fifth grader. The Furtkamps have several more Geography Bees in their future!

Please visit our Web site at AEMSeagles.org. There are many new features. It has become a very useful resource.

One of the great things about technology is the bridge it can create between home and school. Math learning doesn't have to end when the school day ends. Our first through fourth grade students are all enrolled in IXL Math. Our fifth through eighth grade students all have Khan Academy accounts. Math skills can be practiced at home. Progress is

tracked, and parents and teachers can access it at any time.

New Superintendent

The search for a new superintendent for the Andover and Merrimack Valley School Districts is underway. The three candidates toured our school this week with very capable and personable student tour guides. The candidates then met with teachers, administrators, School Board members, and support staff members. The SAU Board will soon announce the next Superintendent of SAU #46.

New England College and Professor Bill Preble will once again offer a graduate-level course at AE/MS after school hours beginning this month. Many teachers are taking advantage of this opportunity. Teachers from Grantham, Danbury, and Henniker will also travel to AE/MS for the course.

The 100th day of school will soon be here. It is always an exciting event for kindergarten students, but with the large classes this year it should be a phenomenally exciting event.

Chinese New Year is an annual celebration at AE/MS. It is a tradition for the fourth grade class to lead the dragon parade throughout the building. It is the Year of the Horse, and AE/MS will celebrate in early February. An incredible lunch is served to the students with many Asian delicacies.

Thursday, February 20, is the annual Parent Breakfast. A delicious breakfast is served beginning at 7 AM. Parents are encouraged to have breakfast with their child before they head to work.

Monday, March 3, is the annual School District Meeting at 7 PM in the AE/MS gym. It is at this meeting that the school budget for 2014-15 is voted upon. You must be present to vote.

If you are in the building, please take the time to walk around and enjoy the student art work displayed throughout the building.



Eighth grade students have enjoyed the lesson on printmaking in art class. Displaying their work are Alex Crucitti, Collin O'Donnell, Noah Newton, and Aiden Cox.

Share Your Talents and Interests at SHARE Day

By Gisela Darling
SHARE Day Coordinator

Andover Elementary School/Middle School would like to announce this year's date for SHARE Day (See How Arts Reach Everyone). It will take place on Friday, May 16. This special day brings artists, craftspeople, and musicians from Andover and surrounding communities into the AE/MS classrooms to offer workshops to the students at the school.

Just as in years past, the school would like to invite community members to share their talents by offering a workshop in crafts or arts-related hobbies.

Workshops in the past have ranged from basket making to weaving. Different sports workshops also have been offered to the students.

Volunteers are also needed to assist the workshop leaders or help the lower grades with their activities.

Please call Gisela Darling, workshop coordinator, at 735-5681 or Principal Jane Slayton at 735-5494 if you need more information or would like to help. All workshops need to be in place at the beginning of April for the information to be sent home and students to make their choices before April vacation.

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Nick Fairall Named to Olympic Ski Jumping Team

Chris Lamb still in the running

By Sandy Smith
Concord Monitor staff
From the December 30 Monitor

When Nick Fairall won his first national ski jumping title back in August, it couldn't have been a better start to an Olympic season for the Andover native.

Yesterday, back at the Park City, Utah, venue where he captured the large hill national championship, Fairall accomplished his next big goal. The 24-year-old won the US Olympic trials, stamping his ticket to the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, in February.

"It's excellent to be going to my first Olympics. It's something I have dreamed of since I was a little kid, but most importantly I am proud to go and represent the USA," Fairall said. "It's not a generic comment; I'm very proud. It's such a great opportunity that not many people get to do, and I'm so thankful for that."

Jessica Jerome won the women's trials, sending her to the first women's ski jumping competition in Olympic history.

The winner of the trials receives an automatic spot on the Olympic team, while the other three spots on each squad will be determined by results in international competition. Two other Granite Staters, Andover's Chris Lamb and Lebanon's Nick Alexander, are in the running for those spots, which are expected to be announced on January 22.

Fairall, who also was national runner-up on the normal hill in Lake Placid, New York, in October, won yesterday's trials with 253.5 points to earn his first Olympic spot. Anders Johnson was second, 4.5 points behind. Peter Frenette finished third with 245.5 points.

Jumping off the normal hill at the site of the 2002 Winter Olympics, Fairall

cleared 96 meters on his first jump to score 127.5 points and take a six-point lead over Johnson. After Johnson scored 126.5 points on his second jump, Fairall once again cleared 96 meters, scoring 126 points to secure the title and his Olympic dream.

"I like this format, and the crowd created such excitement, it was unbelievable," said Fairall, who began ski jumping at six years old with the



Nick Fairall is hoisted aloft by his teammates as he wins a berth on the US Ski Jumping Team and heads for the Sochi Olympics in February. Photo: USASJA

Andover Outing Club. "I tried to stay mentally strong today and not put too much pressure on myself, and it paid off. I'm really happy."

Lamb, like Fairall a product of the Andover Outing Club, finished fifth yesterday with 237 points. He cleared 93 meters on his first jump and 92.5 on his second, scoring 118.5 points on each.

Alexander was sixth with 231.5 points.

"Based upon how the guys have been jumping so far this season, I was really happy. It was a very fair competition, and I was pretty much expecting the guys that placed in the top three to be there," US men's ski jumping Head Coach Clint Jones said. "Nick Fairall has been jumping pretty well, and it was good that he was so consistent."

With his spot on the Olympic team secure, Fairall will be headed to Austria this week for the final two stops of the famed Four Hills Tournament, to be held on Saturday and next Monday.

Sandy Smith can be reached at 369-3339 or SSmith@CMonitor.com.

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Will Furtkamp, AE/MS Geography Bee Champion, and runner-up Lily Furtkamp, his sister. Photo: Heidi Unger

Will Furtkamp Wins AE/MS Geography Bee

Next step: earn a spot at state level

By Jim Tucker, AE/MS teacher

The National Geographic Geography Bee has made a return this year to Andover. Eight geography experts of Andover Elementary/Middle School competed for the title of AE/MS Geography Bee Champion.

The competition began with every student in grades five through eight competing for a spot in the second round of the Geography Bee. With questions ranging from world geography to United States geography, the challenge for the students was at a very high level.

From the fifth grade, Lily Furtkamp and Ayla Caron; from the sixth grade, Ri-

ley Keezer and Will Furtkamp; from the seventh grade, Jack Newton and Aiden Kellogg; and from the eighth grade, John Maynard and Scout Armstrong – these were the finalists who faced each other head-to-head with a supportive audience of their fellow classmates.

The students put forth a fabulous effort, and the competition was full of entertainment. In the end, sixth grader Will Furtkamp rose through the ranks to win the final round and the right to call himself Andover 2013-2014 Geography Bee Champ.

The next step for Will is to submit a written test and hope he makes the grade to compete at the state level. The staff, students, and the Andover community want to wish Will, "Good luck!"

BEACON DEADLINE: THE 15TH!



Join the Proctor community for a celebration of Proctor Ski Area, Saturday, February 8, from 5 to 8:30 PM. Fires will be blazing outside Yarrow's Lodge, and a delicious supper will be served inside. Bring skis, snowboards, kids, and friends, and enjoy improved snowmaking, new lighting, and the finest conditions anywhere! The evening culminates with a spectacular torchlight parade. This annual celebration is offered to the community at no cost.

Photo: Chuck Will



Bring your skis, friends and family and join us for an evening of skiing and celebration at Proctor's Ski Area on Saturday, February 8 from 5:00-8:30 PM. You will enjoy great snow and terrain under the lights! Fires will be blazing both in and outside Yarrow's Lodge, where we'll serve you and your friends a hearty meal. RSVP to Debbie at 603-735-6215 or events@proctoracademy.com.

WWW.PROCTORACADEMY.ORG

Nick from page 36

The older students at AE/MS know Nick the best as he has been their track coach for several years. They made a heartfelt presentation to Nick (see below), followed by Nick taking the microphone and thanking the AE/MS students for their support. A standing ovation, Olympic music, and "USA" chanting ended the assembly.

Below is the track team presentation written and shared by Collin O'Donnell, Alex Crucitti, Katelyn Barton, John Maynard, Aiden Cox, and Bret Russell:

"We are very honored to have Coach Fairall as our track coach at AE/MS. We would like to offer our support and send our good wishes with him on his journey to Sochi, Russia.

"Coach Nick Fairall never fails to inspire confidence in us during the track season. He tells us not to give up, to keep trying, and to push ourselves. Watching Coach Fairall qualify for the Olympics proves to us that these pieces of advice work. In Nick's honor, we have written

an acrostic poem.

Never give up!
Inspiration is what you have given us,
Challenge yourself!
Keep trying!
Fly like an eagle!
Always push yourself!
I believe in you!
Reach for the stars,
Always improve,
Legendary.
Long hours of practice pays off.

"He helped me set a goal, and reach for it. I used this skill in other sports and in the classroom."

"When I became frustrated, he told me to never give up and keep on trying!"

"He told me to out-jump the opponent. He taught me how to always better myself in my running."

"He taught me that anything is possible if you try hard enough."

Good luck, Nick! We will all be watching and cheering you on. 

Gown from page 36

ful." Her one major concern involved Route 11 and how some students don't stop before crossing the street; they just walk across without looking.

She noted, "I always stop because I see them, but I don't think they even think twice. Some of them do [stop] but not all of them. It's just very scary; they are all dressed in black, and they just stop out into the street."

This is something that has been the topic of conversation in many all-school assemblies, and students are constantly reminded by faculty to stop, look, and be sure to give a friendly wave to the cars that have stopped. Almost everyone I interviewed said that students need to be more mindful when crossing the road.

Another popular topic with local residents was the chaos that students create at Jake's during the lunch hour. I can say from experience it is like a zoo. Students are all packed inside ordering from the deli and finding food on the racks. Students are talking and laughing – it can become really loud.

When I asked Jeff, age 64 and an Andover resident for 39 years, how this lunchtime rush affects him, he said, "Sometimes when I enter Jake's, it is full of students, and it's hard to get in the front door."

I explained the situation to a few Jake's employees, and they said that they try to move the students who have purchased their food out of the store to create more space. Some students recognize the issues. Michael Hovem, a two-year junior at Proctor, said, "I try to let the townspeople get around me and go first in line. They shouldn't have to wait behind 10 Proctor kids. I also try to be as polite as possible." Michael also wanted to tell the Andover residents, "I'm sorry for the ones [students] who are rude and disrespectful. We aren't all like that."

It's important Proctor students continue to be polite to Andover residents because they do appreciate our presence in the town.

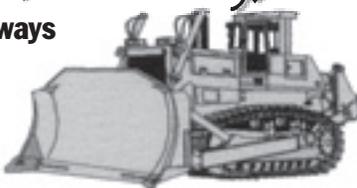
My final question was, "What would the town be without Proctor Academy?" An elderly gentleman who wished to remain anonymous replied, "Oh, it would be a very different town, certainly. I think Proctor is the heart of the town." Another resident who has called Andover his home for more than 52 years observed, "It would be very quiet without Proctor. It's part of the community."

Hearing comments like that makes me happy and optimistic about Proctor's role in Andover as it's been my "home away from home" for four years.

Connor Hollenbaugh is a senior from Summit, New Jersey. 

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 2013/2014 - First Trimester

Grade 5 • High Honors	• Savannah Drewry
• Kyleigh Fanny	• Teigan Friedrich
• Lillian Furtkamp	• Jared Frost
Grade 5 • Honors	• Ezra Jenifer
• Cedar Kiedaisch	• Britta Johnson
• Mia Smith	• Nelson Makechnie
Grade 6 • High Honors	• Jack Newton
• Hannah Asbury	• Myles Powers
• Vienna Marcus	• DJ Rankins
Grade 6 • Honors	• David Reynolds
• Tori Braley	• Matthew Reynolds
• Madisyn Brayshaw	• Jesse Wagner
• Clay Farley	• Sofia Weber
• William Furtkamp	Grade 8 • High Honors
• Ryelle Jenifer	• Koby Perreault
• Riley Keezer	• Luke Weber
• Dillan Reed	Grade 8 • Honors
• Ronan Walsh	• Betsy Abrahamson
Grade 7 • High Honors	• Scout Armstrong
• Matt Bent	• Katelyn Barton
• Lexi Emeny	• Emily Bates
• Aidan Kellogg	• Chloe Methven
• Samantha Parkman	• Noah Newton
Grade 7 • Honors	• Collin O'Donnell
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Principal Jane Slayton, Ernie the Eagle, and eighth grade student Bret Russell (right) wish Nick Fairall luck as he heads off to the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi.
Photo: Jen Bent



Jake's Market can be jammed with Proctor students at lunchtime.

Photo: Chuck Will

Proctor Journalism Student Optimistic about "Town and Gown"

Residents' concern: safety crossing Main Street

By Connor Hollenbaugh, Proctor '14

Having attended Proctor Academy for four years, I have had countless interactions with Andover townspeople. It was enrolling in journalism class that gave me the push to see what kind of reputation Proctor holds in the eyes of Andover residents and to write an article. Speaking with a handful of people at Jake's Market and Lake Sunapee

Bank, I now better understand Proctor's impact on the town of Andover.

Interviewing a few residents, three concerns kept surfacing: students crossing Route 11 safely, the crush of students in Jake's during lunch time, and the attitude a few students display when interacting with residents.

I first talked with a woman named Melissa. She's lived in Andover for 14 years and commented, "Students for the most part are very polite and respect-

See GOWN on page 35



Gail Fitzpatrick, the new librarian at the Bachelder Library, read a "scary" book to the first graders. Ms. Fitzpatrick read "The Iciest, Diciest, Scariest Sled Ride Ever!" by Rebecca Rule, Andover resident Sheree Miller's sister. After hearing the story, everyone wanted to go sledding. We will be looking forward to our next visit from Ms. Fitz!
Photo and caption: Jen Bent

AE/MS Throws Huge Send-Off for Nick Fairall

His trip to Sochi Olympics inspires all

Press release

Nick Fairall of Andover, winner of the US Olympic ski jumping trials and a member of the 2014 US Olympic ski jumping team, was celebrated at Andover Elementary/Middle School on January 17. Students in kindergarten through grade eight all had a role in the grand celebration.

Olympic music played in the background as the gym filled up with excited students, all wanting to share the morning with Nick and send him on his way to the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. The walls and doors were covered with posters, signs, and Olympic rings, all of which were colored and constructed by students.

Principal Jane Slayton welcomed Nick and shared that Nick sets a great

example for students as he diligently works toward his dream. "Nick, know that we will all be watching and cheering for you," Ms Slayton said. "We are your biggest fans. We will be with you at the top of the jump. We will be holding our breath as you soar through the air, and we will be cheering, screaming, dancing, and celebrating as you land."

The fourth grade students shared personal letters of inspiration with Nick and talked about how Nick has inspired them to work hard and follow their goals. Students in grade three talked about the qualities of an Olympian (all of which Nick has).

Seventh grade students presented Nick with a stack of "Good Luck" cards to pack and bring with him to Sochi. Second graders gave Nick a very creative travel guide, so that Nick would know about all that Sochi has to offer.

See Nick on page 35

Harlem Wizards Face Mr. Tucker in Benefit Basketball Game

Wednesday, February 5 at MVHS

Press release

The Harlem Wizards are coming to Merrimack Valley High School on Wednesday, February 5, at 7 PM to play in a trick basketball game with teachers from local schools. Teachers from Boscawen, Penacook, Webster, Salisbury, and Loudon, as well as Andover Elementary/Middle School's own athletic director, Jim Tucker, will play in the game.

Beyond the basketball court, the slam dunks, the fancy ball handling, and entertaining antics of the Harlem Wizards, there will be a meaningful outpouring of community support for a teenager who is battling cancer. All proceeds from the game will benefit the family of Haley Roy, a 16-year-old sophomore at Merrimack Valley High School who was recently diagnosed with lymphoma. The proceeds will help assist the family financially, as hospital

bills, weekly travels to Boston, overnight stays during chemo treatments in Boston, and unpaid time off from work are all beginning to take their toll on this amazingly strong family.

The Harlem Wizards have a unique mission: to create awe-inspiring events throughout the country. At a Harlem Wizards' game, fans will witness amazing basketball talent combined with hilarious comedy. It is a unique family event, where students, parents, teachers and the community can all laugh together.

The game includes an audience participation half-time show and a free autograph session at the end of the game. Harlem Wizard souvenirs and refreshments will be sold. Tickets are \$10 for students and \$12 for adults in advance, and will be \$2 additional at the door. Buy tickets at Alan's Restaurant, Capital Sporting Goods, or online at HarlemWizards.com. For more information contact Sue Gorham at SGorham@mv.k12.nh.us

